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The Spectator

"Older than the New York Times"

Senior gift will donate to ELS

by Kathleen McGrory '05
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Class of 2005 will help finance the conversion of the Emerson Literary Society building into a student center, the Senior Gift Campaign Committee announced Thursday evening. The gift was announced at a reception for seniors held in the Bristol Hub.

Nearly 250 members of the senior class participated in last week's vote to determine the class gift, said Committee Co-chair Katie Plumb '05. But in the end, the ELS renovation project swept the vote, earning nearly 70 percent of senior votes.

The renovation project beat out the creation of a Class of 2005 scholarship and a campus beautification project. These three ideas were chosen from the nearly 30 ideas submitted by members of the Class of 2005.

For Committee Co-chairs Plumb and Ginny Smith '05, whittling the ideas down from 40 to three was no easy task. "A lot of people had a lot of great ideas, but we needed to choose the ones that would have the most widespread impact," said Smith.
Both Smith and Plumb were pleased to learn the results of the vote.

"This is a project that is going to have a big impact on so many students," Plumb said. "It isn't a project that will be limited to a certain group of students or a certain place on campus. In my opinion, this is one of the best ways that the Class of 2005 could have had a lasting impact on the Hill."

Julie Rainsford '00 of the Alumni Office oversees the Senior Gift Committee. In her opinion, ELS is a "great" senior

*see **Senior Gift**, page 4*

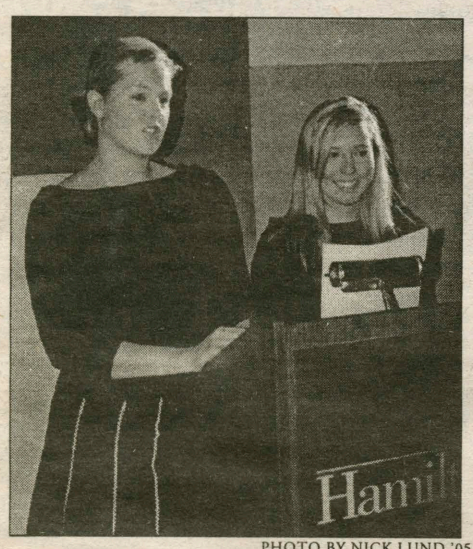

PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

Katie Plumb '05 and Ginny Smith '05 announce the senior gift.

PHOTO BY BOBBY COLE '06

Hamilton students gather at the rally that the Rainbow Alliance sponsored last Thursday.

Rainbow Alliance sponsors rally

by Emma Furman '07
NEWS EDITOR

A few weeks ago a gay student at Hamilton College had a vicious note put under his door, which was not only brutally homophobic in nature, but also threatened his life. This is not the first hate crime Hamilton's student body has been subjected to, and in order to make the campus and general public aware of these occurrences, and to publicly denounce a campus climate which tolerates hatred and harassment, students responded by organizing a rally this past Thursday afternoon.

According to Rainbow Alliance Secretary Karen Richardson '06, the rally was organized primarily by the Rainbow Alliance, along with support from the Coalition for Social Justice. She added that it was a "fairly big rally" in terms of attendance, with not only students in attendance, but members of the faculty, including Assistant Professor of Sociology Jenny Irons and Assistant Professor of English Tina Hall.

The rally itself was "planned [only] about twelve hours in advance," said Richardson. It was planned to coincide with local

*see **Rally**, page 4*

Author Ron Chernow delivers lecture illuminating life of Alexander Hamilton

by Emily Lemanczyk
FEATURES EDITOR

Award-winning biographer Ron Chernow spoke in the Hamilton College Chapel on September 30, delivering a lively lecture titled "Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Imagined America." Chernow discussed the academic, personal and professional life of the first secretary of state.

Chernow graciously thanked the audience, noting that it must have been "destiny" for him to speak at Hamilton College about Alexander Hamilton. "The magical power" of the Hamilton namesake, Chernow said, was incredibly welcoming.

He began his animated lecture by explaining America's problem of "historical amnesia." Contemporary American society, as well as current history books, regard Alexander Hamilton as a snob. Also, Hamilton is viewed today as the "hunk" of the founding fathers, said Chernow, referring the recent makeover on the new $10 bill.

Although some may have considered Hamilton charming, Chernow noted that Hamilton was not the dangerous villain that he is so often portrayed as being. In fact, Chernow claimed, Hamilton is the "most underrated" figure from early American history. Hamilton was charming, witty, brilliant, and (perhaps hazardously) self-assured.

Chernow went on to commend Hamilton's character, explaining that rebellions rarely breed such multifaceted characters.

Chernow recounted the early life of Hamilton in his lecture. Hamilton's life as an young adolescent was plagued with personal tragedy and misfortune. Luckily, Hamilton did not live in poverty for long.

"Hamilton literally wrote his way out of poverty," Chernow explained, as Hamilton attended Kings College (now known as Columbia University) because of his amazing writing skills and academic perspicacity. As an undergraduate, Hamilton was not

*see **Chernow**, page 2*

New Roma's to open Wednesday, October 13th

by Tim Foley '06
BUISINESS & ECONOMICS EDITOR

Ron Roma, owner of Roma's Pizzeria, plans to open a sprawling new complex at the former site of the Great American grocery store. A separate restaurant and bar will occupy the space unused by the Dollar General store.

The restaurant and pizzeria is poised to open its doors within the next two months. Still under construction, the giant sports bar will open at a later date.

Roma's Italian Bistro will serve customers 24 hours a day, and all orders can be taken out, delivered or eaten in the new 100+ seat dining room. The backbone of the restaurant will be an overhauled dinner menu featuring fresh seafood, steaks, Italian and American dishes, a wide selection of pasta, family-style buffets, finger foods and of course, Roma's famous pizza. But the options don't end there.

Patrons can also grab breakfast and lunch in the eatery or have it delivered to their doorstep. Roma's will have a full deli, a bakery pumping out fresh pastries and a coffee bar. Easy access and ample parking will look to make Roma's Italian Bistro a new staple in Clinton and that's exactly what the owner set out to do.

Roma's Pizzeria was established in 1983 and originally occupied a building in the middle

*see **Roma's**, page 12*

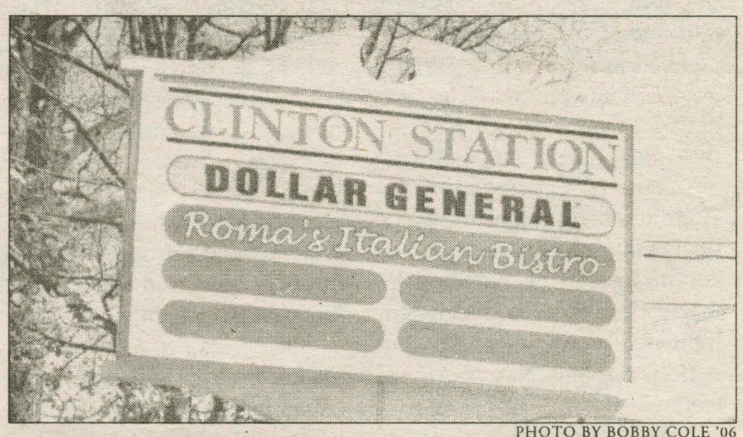

PHOTO BY BOBBY COLE '06

A downtown sign announces that the new Roma's will open for business.

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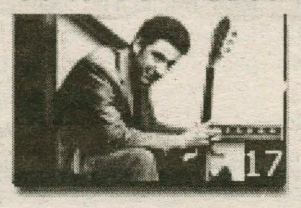
Not to be Missed...



Still Searching...

Kirk Ormand lectures on "Electra in Exile"

by Katie Childs '08
NEWS WRITER

Over 50 students and several faculty members attended a lecture by Kirk Ormand entitled "Electra in Exile" on September 29. The lecture tied into the curriculum of Professor Mark Masterson's mythology class, as well as a class on tragedy taught by Professor Nancy Rabinowitz. It was sponsored by the Classics department as part of the Winslow lectureship program.

"I'm quite familiar with [Mr. Ormand's] work, which I think is significant," said Professor Masterson. "He's an engaging speaker; you heard him speak about everything from very speculative stuff to 'the laws are X, Y, Z,' which is great."

The lecture was based on Euripides' telling of the Electra story. "It's a very odd version of the play," said Mr. Ormand. "The killings themselves seem brutal and this has led to all sorts of comments about the play. It's steeped in realism; this really has to do with the fact that the characters feel small."

Euripides' version of the Electra story differs from the play written by Sophocles: "In a fundamental sense, Electra begins this play in exile. This is what is really interesting in this play."

"Euripides moves the play physically," said Mr. Ormand. Electra is transported from the city to a farm after her mother's lover, Aegisthus, spares her life and marries her to a peasant. "He's marrying her to a lesser guy so she won't have children who will threaten the dynasty," said Mr. Ormand.

Mr. Ormand discussed how Electra's exile was not just a physical one. "It's not that she's physically removed from the palace; it's that she's removed from her family," said Mr. Ormand. In addition, Electra is removed from everything she has ever known, including the politics and customs of her fatherland. "Euripides is defining Electra's exile in these terms."

The play gives a revealing portrait of the traditions of the Athenian people at the time, including the laws that governed their societal roles. "These plays are duplicating the structure of Athenian society," said Mr. Ormand.

Athenian society dictated that only a father or guardian could give a woman away to marriage; because Aegisthus is neither of these things to Electra, her marriage is technically invalid. "Her exile is not just an exile from the city or farming, but exile from all womanly status. She doesn't have a category to which she belongs," said Mr. Ormand. "She's in a kind of never-never land" because there is no clear transition from Electra's status as a maiden into that of a wife and therefore no transition into the role of a mother.

"It's a weird open secret that they have not had sex, but she keeps talking about it to strangers," said Mr. Ormand. Their abstinence is justified because "in a sense they're not married." These circumstances leave Electra in a "limbo of powerlessness," according to Mr. Ormand.

The lecture was followed by a question-and-answer session, and a discussion of the play's central themes.

The presentation will appear in the form of an article in Mr. Ormand's upcoming book. "This particular play, I started looking at two years ago and I've been working on it off and on," said Mr. Ormand.

Mr. Ormand teaches classics at Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio. He was visiting Hamilton for the first time, and was pleased with the response to the lecture: "Anytime you have questions, it's great. There was a great turnout."

Biographer discusses College's namesake

*from **Chernow**, page 1*

only an extraordinary writer, but he was also an "ambivalent revolutionary," craving liberty but dreading social disorder, Chernow said.

Although Hamilton climbed the ranks in the Continental army and later Washington's cabinet, he craved military action and battlefield glory. Hamilton was a man of action and intelligence, Chernow said. (Eventually Hamilton did achieve his long wish to be a true combatant at the battle of Yorktown.)

While helping plan the attacks during the war, Hamilton also gave himself a "crash-course" in geography, business and economics. He intensely studied the stock exchanges, banking systems and trading laws of European economic powerhouses England, France and Holland. By studying these nations, Hamilton realized that economic power was linked closely to political power.

Chernow refuted Hamilton's snobby reputation. According to the author, Hamilton was very dedicated to the creation and organization of the United States government. He was the sole delegate from New York to sign the Constitution, and authored 51 of the 85 Federalist papers. Hamilton also fought for social justice in early America. As the abolitionist of the founding fathers, Hamilton held very enlightened views about African-Americans and Native-Americans.

As Washington's secretary of the treasury, Hamilton "became the most influential and controversial man in the United States." Hamilton created the tax system, the accounting system, the monetary system, the first national bank (which would later become the Federal Reserve,) as well as many other bureaucratic organizations, such as Customs and the U.S. Coast Guard. Chernow praised Hamilton for his role in America's early economy, since Hamilton singlehandedly devised a successful plan to restore American credit following the Revolutionary War.

Despite Hamilton's intellectual magnitude, he was far from perfect and he publicly admitted to extramarital affairs. However, regardless of his imperfections, Hamilton's life is "truly inspirational," Chernow said in closing, "because he grew up alongside his adopted country."

A question and answer session and a book signing followed the lecture.

Chernow has authored many critically acclaimed books, including *The House of Morgan: An American Banking Family & the Rise of Modern Finance*, *The Death of the Banker: The Decline and Fall of the Great Financial Dynasties and the Triumph of the Small Investor*, and *Titan: The Life of John D. Rockefeller, Sr.*

An honors graduate of Yale and Cambridge, Ron Chernow is one of the most distinguished commentators on business, politics and finance in America today. The *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* hailed him as "one of the preeminent biographers of his generation," and *Fortune* magazine dubbed him "America's best business biographer."

The Victor S. Johnson Family Lectureship Fund was established by the Johnson family to bring speakers to campus who are alumni, public figures, scholars and others who have distinguished themselves in their respective careers and are recognized leaders in their fields. The lectures are intended to address a significant aspect of American life and thought.

This article also appeared on the Hamilton website.

Melanie Leeds '08 receives award in Philadelphia Young Playwrights Festival

by Whitney Kimmel '08
NEWS WRITER

Melanie Leeds '08 did not know what to expect when she entered the Philadelphia Young Playwrights Festival with more than 1,500 of her peers to compete for one of seven winning places.. Her writing teacher had advised her to submit her script, "just to see what would happen," even though, according to Leeds, "[the competition] could be pretty competitive." With only one year of creative writing under her belt, she was surprised and thrilled to be announced as one of the winners.

Leeds claims that writing the play itself was fairly easy, "it's the editing that's tedious." The comedy about a senior girl's quest to make a connection with someone in high school after having reoccurring dreams about pink mittens "just came out," she says. The plot evolved from a short monologue she had written earlier for the same class. Having "never really been involved in theater production in high school," converting the monologue into a play was a bit more challenging. She had to think about the actors, the characters' motives and how each scene would translate on stage. She said it caused her to "think about the piece in a totally different way."

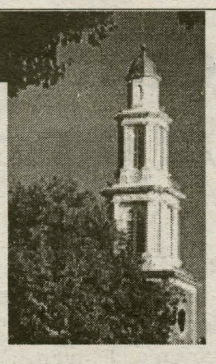
According to their mission statement, "Philadelphia Young Playwrights is an arts-education organization that taps the potential of youth and inspires learning through playwriting." As a winner, Leed's piece will be staged and read twice at Temple University by their theater program the first weekend in November, as well as at her local Barnes and Noble Bookstore. There is also a possibility that her piece will be picked up and performed by professional theater companies, although, she says, that prospect is "up in the air" at the moment.

Leeds took the creative writing course after hearing "awesome things about it from other students." This idea appealed to her much more than analyzing prose and expository writing. She hoped the class would be a "fun way to express [herself]," taking some of the monotony out of the traditional English courses offered at her school.

She is currently revising her script and planning to submit her play with these revisions to a national festival in December. When asked how she thinks she will do, she laughingly replied that she hopes she'll do well, but knows the national festival is much more competitive than the regional version. Even so, her accomplishments give her plenty of bragging rights. She says being published is "kind of funny, but really nice." Hopefully by 2005, Leeds's name will appear in print again, this time as a winner on a national level.

Interested in a career in journalism? Start learning the skills neccessary to be a news writer by contacting News Editors Greta Rosenberger (grosenbe) and Emma Furman (efurman). Our only requirement is that you are able to write detailed and slightly lengthy articles so we don't have to run any more of these useless ads.

IVORY TOWERS



THE NEWS AT COLLEGES ACROSS THE LAND

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

'World Citizens Guide' a Tool for Student Travelers

DALLAS, Texas (AP) — Don't touch the top of someone's head in Indonesia or talk with your hands in your pockets in Belgium.

Feel free, though, to stick out your tongue in Tibet. It's a perfectly acceptable greeting.

With anti-American sentiment running high in many places, a new "World Citizens Guide" aims to make unofficial U.S. ambassadors out of student travelers often unaware of cultural differences and sometimes known for bad behavior.

The 60-page, passport-size booklet, produced by Southern Methodist University in cooperation with the advocacy group Business for Diplomatic Action, advises students studying abroad to talk about the weather, but not religion or politics.

Unveiled Wednesday at SMU, the guide will be distributed this fall to more than 200,000 students nationwide.

"It's not that one person is going to change anti-American sentiment," said Cari Eggspuehler, executive director of Business for Diplomatic Action, a group of marketing and communications executives that works to improve America's image abroad. "But if 160,000 young Americans just take five seconds to care a little bit more, to listen a little bit more and be more receptive, it will make a difference."

An estimated 167,000 American students studied abroad last year — more than twice as many as 20 years ago. For students worried about which fork to use — or what to do if it's dinnertime and the food looks weird — the guide offers plenty of advice. It also tackles topics such as U.S. foreign policy.

"Many people you'll meet do not understand or agree with our country's foreign policy, especially as it relates to the war in Iraq or our policy in the Middle East," the guide notes. "As one person, you can do little to directly affect national policy, but you should be aware of the negative perceptions surrounding it."

Testing Worries Weigh on Florida Schools

PENSACOLA, Florida (AP) — Kenyata Johnson is worried that her 7-year-old son may become an academic casualty of Hurricane Ivan.

The first grader is among 92,000 Escambia and Santa Rosa county students who will return to their classrooms Monday after missing 19 school days because of the storm that slammed the Florida Panhandle on September 15.

In varying degrees, the four hurricanes hitting Florida since August have affected all public schools and students this year. The 67 districts all have missed at least one day. Many missed a week or more. St. Lucie County, struck by Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne, missed 21 days.

That has parents and teachers concerned their children will be hurt academically and lose precious time needed to prepare for the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test in February and March. The FCAT can determine if a student graduates or advances to the next grade. Poor results can lead to a school losing students and, eventually, being shut down.

Johnson's son, Anthony Grandison, doesn't have to worry about taking the test yet. Children take it for the first time in third grade, and Anthony is repeating the first grade because he did poorly last semester. Still, Johnson doesn't want him or his 6-year-old sister, Alexandra Burt, also in the first grade, to suffer because of the lost time.

"I went out to Wal-Mart and bought books for them. They do work at home and study their spelling words," said Johnson, 26, a certified nurse's assistant. "If there's anything I can do I would like for them to let me know so I can help."

Gov. Jeb Bush, while inspecting storm-damaged Pensacola High School, said the FCAT will be delayed for some school districts, but he will not let children in even the worst-hit areas skip the test altogether.

WORLD NEWS

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Insurgents Hit Baghdad Hotel With Rockets

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Rockets struck a Baghdad hotel housing foreign contractors and journalists late Thursday, drawing return fire and underscoring the precarious security in the heart of the Iraqi capital. Outside Baghdad, roadside bombings killed two more American soldiers.

More scattered explosions reverberated through the heart of the Iraqi capital around midnight, but it wasn't known what caused the blasts or if there were any casualties.

The rocket attacks came as an aide to radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr offered to disarm his Mahdi Army militia in a move that could bring an end to weeks of fighting in Baghdad's Shiite district Sadr City. The government cautiously welcomed the offer and suggested other militant groups also lay down their arms.

Three Katyusha rockets slammed into the Sheraton hotel, the Interior Ministry said, triggering thunderous explosions, shattering windows and setting off small fires. Dazed guests, including Western journalists, contractors and a bride and groom on their wedding night stumbled to safety through the smoke and debris.

"I made a mistake by booking at the Sheraton," said Hayer Abdul Zahra, holding his shivering bride under his arm. "I knew something like this would happen."

Blasts Kill 29 on Egypt-Israeli Border

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Three explosions shook popular resorts on Egypt's Sinai Peninsula on Thursday night as many Israelis vacationed at the close of a Jewish holiday. Hospital officials said at least 29 people were killed, and witnesses gave unconfirmed reports that all three explosions were caused by car bombs.

Egyptian security officials said there was no evidence of terrorism, but Israel's army radio said officials believed the Taba explosion was a car bomb, and witnesses at the other two sites told relatives that cars had exploded.

The first and largest blast shook the Hilton hotel in the Taba resort, only yards from the Israeli border. Two smaller blasts later struck the area of Ras Shitan, a camping area near the town of Nuweiba south of Taba, witnesses said.

An official at Taba Hospital, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said his institution had taken in 27 bodies from the Taba explosion and two more from Ras Shitan. An official at the Nuweiba hospital said two more bodies arrived there. Israeli police said at least 30 were killed in the Taba blast alone.

Explosion Rattles Kabul on Election Eve

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — A loud explosion rattled the Afghan capital near the U.S. Embassy early Friday, prompting American officials to order diplomatic staff to take shelter in an underground bunker.

Lt. Commander Ken MacKillop, a spokesman for international peacekeepers, said it was not clear what caused the blast, which came a day before the start of national elections.

"We are alert and investigating," he said. There was no immediate word of any injuries or damage. Heavily-armed U.S. and Afghan troops sealed off the roads leading to the diplomatic area.

Beth Lee, a spokeswoman for the U.S. embassy, said staff had been ordered to take cover in an underground bunker.

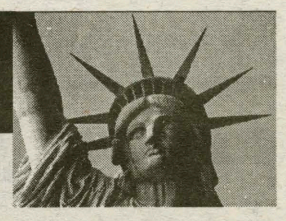
The blast shattered a relatively calm lead-up to Saturday's vote, at least in the capital.

It was loud enough to shake windows and rouse people from their beds.

The headquarters for the 9,000-strong NATO-led International Security Assistance Force is also close to the U.S. Embassy, as are the German and Pakistani missions.

It was the first apparent attack in Kabul since August 28, when a huge car bomb outside a private U.S. security firm in Kabul killed 10 people - three of them Americans. The Americans were helping train anti-narcotics police.

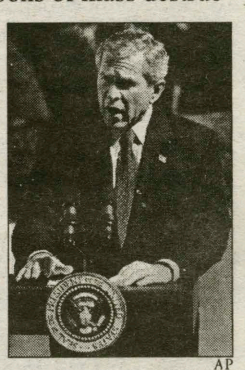
NATIONAL NEWS



Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Bush, Cheney Concede Saddam Had No WMDs

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush and his vice president conceded Thursday in the clearest terms yet that Saddam Hussein had no weapons of mass destruction, even as they tried to shift the Iraq war debate to a new issue - whether the invasion was justified because Saddam was abusing a U.N. oil-for-food program. Ridiculing the Bush administration's evolving rationale for war, Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry shot back: "You don't make up or find reasons to go to war after the fact."



AP

Vice President Dick Cheney brushed aside the central findings of chief U.S. weapons hunter Charles ' - that Saddam not only had no weapons of mass destruction and had not made any since 1991, but that he had no capability of making any either - while Bush unapologetically defended his decision to invade Iraq.

"The Duelfer report showed that Saddam was systematically gaming the system, using the U.N. oil-for-food program to try to influence countries and companies in an effort to undermine sanctions," Bush said as he prepared to fly to campaign events in Wisconsin. "He was doing so with the intent of restarting his weapons program once the world looked away."

U.S. Alerts Schools About Terror Threat

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Education Department is advising school leaders nationwide to watch for people spying on their buildings or buses to help detect any possibility of terrorism like the deadly school siege in Russia.

The warning follows an analysis by the FBI and the Homeland Security Department of the siege that killed nearly 340 people, many of them students, in the city of Beslan last month.

"The horror of this attack may have created significant anxiety in our own country among parents, students, faculty staff and other community members," Deputy Education Secretary Eugene Hickok said in a letter sent Wednesday to schools and education groups.

The advice is based on lessons learned from the Russia siege. But there is no specific information indicating a terrorist threat to any schools or universities in the United States, Hickok said.

9/11 Families Push for Reform in D.C.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sept. 11 families spent the week pleading, screaming, and in some instances weeping for Congress to pass intelligence reforms needed to prevent another such attack, but election year politics put some of them on different sides of the debate.

Several groups of families have trooped the hallways of Congress in the past two weeks, their ranks growing as lawmakers get closer to passing legislation that would create a new national intelligence director.

The most prominent family groups, like the Family Steering Committee, are working to pressure House members to support the Senate reform legislation. They criticized a bill offered Thursday by House Republicans, saying it had too many amendments unrelated to reforms recommended by the 9/11 commission.

"These last 1,000 days plus have been sacred days," said Donald Goodrich of Bennington, Vt., who lost his son Pete Goodrich on Flight 175, the second plane to crash into a World Trade Center tower. "This is a time for Republicans and Democrats to talk to each other."

Some family members, however, support the House bill and oppose the Senate version, citing what they consider overriding problems with border security and immigration, which the House bill addresses.

Peter Gadiel of northern Connecticut, who lost his son James in the World Trade Center, said the Senate version is "only half a bill."

Gift Committee hopes for 100 percent participation in campaign

*from **Senior Gift**, page 1*

project. "A strong senior project is one that the class is connected to," she said. "It needs to be something that will be left behind for both prospectives and the class members themselves when they return as alumni."

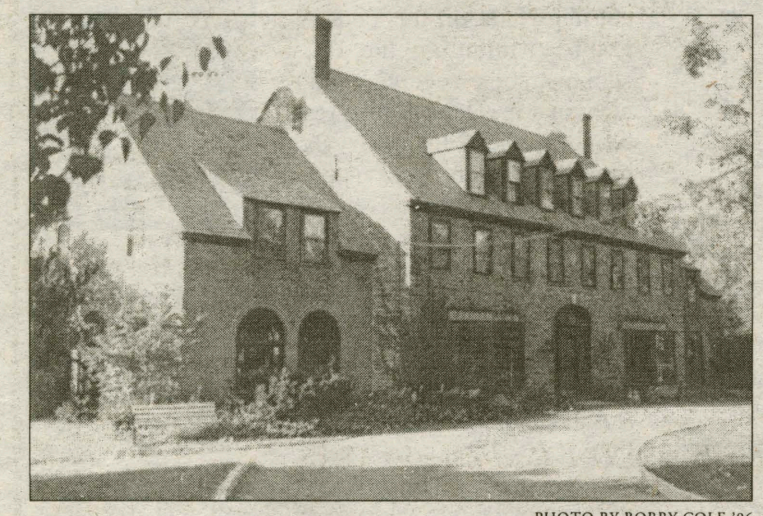


PHOTO BY BOBBY COLE '06

The senior class will help turn ELS into a student center.

Later this semester, members of the committee will speak with Vice President of Administration and Finance Karen Leach to determine where in ELS the senior class gift will be most beneficial. Whether it is the creation of a room or a seating area in the new student center, the Committee will be reaching out to the rest of the class for input, said Rainsford.

Although the groundbreaking remains unscheduled, Rainsford predicts that the project will see increased visibility within the next three years.

In the meanwhile, committee members will publicize the gift and talk to members of the senior class about the importance of giving back to the Hamilton community. Each member usually encourages 15-20 of his classmates to donate.

"We aren't like telemarketers," said Smith with a smile. "Our task is more to talk about leaving a legacy here at Hamilton, and then to thank the student donors for their generosity."

This year's committee members have set their goals high - they aspire to have 100 percent of the senior class participate in the giving campaign.

"The highest percentage of seniors to have ever given to the campaign is 97.3 percent," said Smith. "I think we can do better. We'd really like to be the first class to reach 100 percent participation."

As the Class of 2005 approaches this goal, the Board of Trustees will provide an incentive for more seniors to participate. Should the seniors reach a series of goals (the first of which is 25percent participation by November 5) the Trustees will contribute up to $10,000 toward the senior gift.

The seniors kicked off the giving campaign at Thursday evening's reception. Stuart Hamilton '73, chair of the annual fund, addressed the seniors in attendance.

In addition, the committee announced that it will be holding a campaign logo and slogan contest later this month.

"We really want to make this campaign special for the senior class," said Elizabeth Dolan '05 who will oversee the contest. "We want to make the Senior Gift Campaign high profile this year. We'd also like to see the senior class take ownership of the project."

Rainsford hopes to see all of these goals met. "If there is a project that the senior class wants to see come to fruition, the senior project is a great way to do is," she said.

Past senior gifts include campus beautification projects, numerous scholarships and the purchase of the Hamilton College sign at the bottom of the Hill.

Students enthusiastic about outcome of rally

*from **Rally**, page 1*

media coverage that took place simultaneously on campus in hopes of attaining increased publicity and reaching an even wider audience to create awareness not only on campus, but among the general public as well. "We sort of threw it together because the local NBC affiliate was going to be on campus," Richardson went on to say.

The media was on campus to interview another student on campus, Young Han '06, who has been active in both the Rainbow Alliance and the Coalition for Social Justice in the past. "I was being interviewed by NBC news for a segment on voting rights," said Han.

Han also appeared to be enthusiastic about the outcome of the rally, and expressed his hope that it aided in bringing these acts of harassment and intolerance to the attention of the administration.

"As long as we've gotten their attention that's great," Han said. According to Han, several key members of the administration were, in fact, present at the rally, including Executive Assistant to the President and Secretary to the Board of Trustees Meredith Bonham, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty David Paris, and acting Dean of Students Nancy Thompson.

Richardson also commented on the success of last Thursday's rally. The "purpose of the rally is to create awareness and we're hoping that incidents such as the recent hate crime stop on this campus," she said. However, Richardson went on to add that the success of the rally can't truly be determined until "we have an appropriate administrative response."

Although no definite action has been taken yet by the administration, Richardson mentioned that a committee is being formed to deal with such incidents on campus, and that the Rainbow Alliance is continuing to sponsor events to create awareness and put an end to harassment, discrimination, and feelings of intolerance on campus.

"October is Gay History Month," said Richardson and Rainbow Alliance intends to make good use of the increased publicity and sponsor many events throughout the month.

According to Richardson, the Rainbow Alliance is sponsoring a flyer campaign during which different flyers will be distributed on tables in Commons and McEwen. "Fliers [will] change once a week," said Richardson. This week's fliers focus on terminology, next week's will discuss "Who's who in gay history," the third week's will be on the history of gay people and gay activism, and the fourth week's will focus on gay history at Hamilton.

It is hoped that the recent rally, combined with these events, will continue to perpetuate activism at Hamilton as well as call attention to and put an end to these unacceptable acts of harassment and intolerance on campus.

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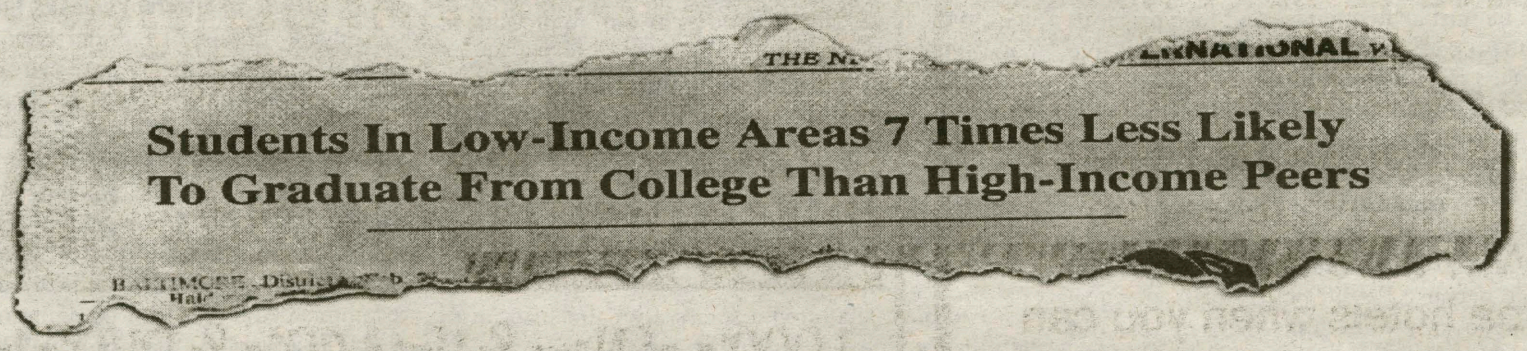

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Editorial
The Spectator

The Spectator

"Older than the New York Times"

Late last week seniors (well, the whole campus really) got a welcome email in their inboxes. In her most personable and informal communication with the student body to date, President Stewart informed the campus that senior dinners are back.

We were surprised, flattered and energized by her considerate response, which acknowledged, among other things, that she had underestimated the value we placed on the dinners, and that that was enough to make her change her mind.

President Stewart, thank you. We'll all do everything we can to make the dinners memorable.

Now that we've decided they are something worth trying to keep, let's not let them fall by the wayside again. We should remember why dinners were started at all, and what they used to be. Once upon a time (well, in the 50s), senior nights were wild and crazy times (in a good way), when students got to show their department and president how mature they'd become, how grateful they were for getting them there, and, best of all, how funny they could be. Stand-up, roasts, jokes, storytelling, songs... you name it and a department or group of like majors regaled the amused president and his (now her!) family. Surely we have it in us somewhere to beat that, and make our dinners more hilarious, charming and enjoyable than ever.

True, dinners are all the way in May, but when the time comes and theses are finished and our minds turn to fun, let's remember to have some. Perhaps this will even encourage departments to become closer, to have inside jokes and favorite stories, and to do something other than give out grades or complain about grades received. We all talk of creating communities, and now the ball's in our court to show the president it was right for her to listen to us.

Speaking of listening (no pun intended), Stewart's decision is a good sign that people are starting to listen to each other on campus– something that hasn't happened for a while. Bon Appetit listened and made it easy once again for faculty to converse with students over a coffee in the dining halls, and the nearly campus-wide response to last month's hate incident means that we are listening to our community's most marginalized members. Let's continue to keep our ears and minds open. Hopefully the Hamilton community is not in as bad shape as it may sometimes seem, and the the lines of communication are opening.

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Insights and Ideas

Hamilton alumni return to the Hill for fallcoming weekend

by Britten Chase '05
I&I EDITOR

Fall break may always seem way too short, but its always great to get off campus. It's not even break in the same sense that spring break is a break. It's more of a "step-out-of-the-box-step-back-into-the box" kind of break. The kind of break that really lets you take a deep breath, then come back and enjoy our nice quiet hilltop community.

Haha, just kidding on that quiet part. It's Alumni Weekend.

On behalf of... well... myself, I'd like to officially welcome all alumni back to the Hill. It is a relief to see you all and realize that you made it in the real world and aren't poor, starving, and trying to eat small rodents out of dumpsters.

Fun. This means we get to see a lot of old friends come back to the Hill and hang out. Which is nice. It sure seems like the campus has gotten younger these past years. To the point that all that is left is my class.

And the three classes below us. Known also as the freshmen class, the other freshmen class, and the...uh...other other freshman class.

When you get to school it seems like you make a point to know people. You want to be liked, you want to be in the know, all that crap. You'd join a team or a club or a cult or whatever and the leaders of those were always upper classmen. Your tourguide or your professors or whoever could always tell you what life at Hamilton was like. Well, maybe not your tourguide, who may or may not have been encouraged to...I mean...prone to...uh...well...lie about life at Hamilton. But that is another article for another time when the Admissions office doesn't hate me. Or hates me less.

Not soon anyway.

I digress. See people probably talked themselves blue in the face telling you what Hamilton was all about and what it was supposed to be like, but when you got to Hamilton the upperclassmen were the ones that showed you what Hamilton life was all about and then they lived it with you.

The trick about being at Hamilton is finding your niche. And when you're away from home for the first time ever in the history of the universe (the greatest universe ever (now open 24 hours a day)), it's nice to not only see someone who made it through the first year of college without commiting a massive felony, and also knew what you were going through and could maybe sometimes offer some worldly advice. If not a beer.

But it meant something. After all, they made it, they're living proof. They made sense of the whole college scene and picked out what was important. So maybe, just maybe, you could do the same thing. And then you did.

Congrats.

There is no set rule on how Hamilton is supposed to be. Its only what we make of it. And what we make of it is what we pass on to the classes after us for better or for worse, because that is how they know it to be.

So a special welcome to the class of 2002 (the seniors), the class of 2003 (also the seniors), the class of 2004 (the sophomores), and all the classes before them. We changed some things around. Some things are the same, like crowds in Beinecke at noon. Some things got worse, like eating on the darkside on the weekend. And some things got better, like the undefeated Streaking Team. But it's still a pretty cool place, and I think you'll find that while so much has happened, it's still the same place that you went to. So think back to what you did back in the day on a Friday and Saturday night, and then put that thought into action.

That'll make for a fun weekend.

Mountain Bike Race!!! *This Saturday starting at 4:00 PM!!*

There will be a team/fun race and a more competitive race, both starting by the pavilion and running through the Kirkland Glen. There will be music, lots of hot burgers and dogs, and really hot guys and gals wearing spandex!! Come to the Pavilion by 3:30 and register for either race! The only thing required is a bike and a helmet. If you need a bike, contact the bike co-op at either jdixon@hamilton.edu or brossett@hamilton.edu, or call #2995. Rain date: Sunday, same time and place.

**Kirkland Glen will be closed on both days due to the race

Thumbs Up

-Tailgating for the football game

-Alumni: the return of TDX - oh wait, they never left

- thefacebook.com: the latest mating ritual

- Late night hookups at the 50 yard line

- Mean Girls

- Tuesday Rok Crew

- G-Road parties (G stands for goodies)

Thumbs Down

-The football team

-Alumni: thinking they can escape their pathetic lives and relive their glory days at Camp Hamilton by hooking up with an unsuspecting freshman

- The smell of poop on campus

- Making out in Commons or Martin's Way: everyone can see you, and it's gross

- Political apathy on campus

- Tuesday Snoozeday

by Pussy Kat Tuckerman '05 and "Vote for Kerry" Eident '05

Who Cares?

- The football game

-Alumni: Advertising your sweeeet job at Goldman Sachs

- Apparently North Lot security

- "How was your break?"

- Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down: the alternate weeks

- Campus safety's new bikes: after cashing in all our tickets, you should have enough money to roll in Escalades

The race to the bottom: Kerry versus Bush

by Blake Erb '05
I&I WRITER

Last week, the first Presidential debate took place between Senator John Kerry and President George W. Bush. This was a most anticipated event after extensive campaigning from both sides. Campaigning that some might even call seriously brutal.

While firmly entrenched Democrats and Republicans merely watched the debates to find ways to discredit the other side, many undecided voters intently watched the debate in an attempt to find direction. Unfortunately, the first debate, which focused on national security, did nothing but give satirists and political humorists ammunition to use against both sides and grant Kerry and Bush supporters reasons to whine and moan about the opposition.

Jim Lehrer of PBS's "Newshour" moderated the debate. This gave hope to me as an undecided voter, thinking that a person of Lehrer's experience would be able to guide the debate skillfully. Unfortunately, Lehrer allowed the debate to become dominated by discussion on United States military action in Iraq. This was expected and both candidates said what they have been saying all the time, but it seemed that the same questions were being asked time and time again. At one point, I thought I had inadvertently traveled back in time because it appeared that Kerry and Bush had repeated what they said for the previous question word for word. The Iraq issue is a serious issue and one that weighs heavily in the minds of voters, but other national security and related issues should have been given more attention.

Another disservice to the undecided voter was the lack of diversity in both candidates' statements. Both Bush and Kerry felt the need to make certain points over and over again. Not once, twice, or even thrice but like a bazillion times. I lost count of how many times Kerry mentioned his military service in the Vietnam War. I think I got up to eleven and than stopped counting. Eleven frickin' times! We know you served in Vietnam, Senator! I'm even proud of the service you did for our county. But it is no surprise to anyone and if you had beat on the Viet Cong like you have a certain dead horse than you would have a Medal of Honor rather than Purple Hearts. But don't let me leave Bush out of this. How many times did Bush allude to the "flip-flopping" nature of Kerry? Too many. It seems that right now this is the only weapon the Bush campaign can reliably use on the Kerry candidacy. Besides, if the Bush administration knew the love college age students have for flip-flops, even in the sub-zero winter temperatures of central New York, they wouldn't be using that phrase. Oh wait. One more thing about Bush. He stuck to the only semi-witty phrase he came up with during debate like a baby elephant does to his mother during a hyena attack. "They're not going to follow somebody who says 'this is the wrong war in the wrong place at the wrong time.'"* It worked the first time, but after that it just seemed like Bush kept saying it to buy time because he wasn't clever enough to think of anything else to say. It's kind of like when a big, dumb jock repeats the insult you said to him because he is too dumb to think of something on his own. "Meathead? Are you calling me a meathead? Did you hear that? He called me a meathead!"

Some lip service was paid to North Korea and nuclear proliferation but there was not enough discussion on the subjects to aid anyone's voting decision. Basically, neither Bush nor Kerry said anything of real substance or originality and cheated many undecided voters. One may say that Kerry performed better in the debate merely because he came across as a better prepared and more composed speaker but let's be honest, Bush pretty much needs a translator. At all times. For English-speaking audiences. Everywhere. One needs to consider this and calculate for it when watching speeches and debates. The public's tendency to give too much credit to good public speaking is what allowed a smooth talker like Bill Clinton to be re-elected. That, and the worst, most uninspiring and most near-dead candidate the Republicans have ever put into the Presidential election. Geez, Calvin Coolidge was more exciting. At least old Calvin wasn't named after crappy produce.

The debate was so boring and played out that I took time to pay attention to Bush when Kerry was speaking and vice versa. First off, Kerry is way bigger than Bush. The podiums and camera angles were used in such a way to try and hide this fact but Bush looked like he was only five feet tall in comparison to Kerry. Also, Bush has some hilarious facial tics. Did you catch the look on his face when Kerry said, "This president has made, I regret to say, a colossal error of judgment"?* I bet Bush put Kerry into his personal Burn Book after the debate.

It was also funny how Kerry was always madly scribbling down notes when Bush was talking but Bush would either vacantly stare into the crowd or twitch. Kerry was probably that nerd in college who took tons of notes and criticized you after class for not doing the same. Bush was probably the one who stared out the window or was checking out the cute girls in class.

Hopefully, the next two upcoming debates will provide better information on a greater number of issues. Many people are set in their voting decisions, so both Bush and Kerry need to focus on the undecided voters. Votes that will most likely decide the outcome in a close presidential race. As one can see, the first presidential debate didn't even provide me with enough material to write a full article. I had to mention past presidents and candidates, dead politicians, talk about the stereotypes Kerry and Bush filled in college and even make a bad joke about Vietnam. If this doesn't improve, I'll have to write someone in. Can we do that? If not, I'll just do a blank ballot. I did that for the Hamilton College student assembly president elections, I'm more than willing to kick it up a notch and do it for the United States Presidential election.

*Quotes heard during debate and verified at cnn.com

The last minute...

by Adam Polonski '08
I&I CONTRIBUTOR

This article is due in an hour and thirty five minutes. An hour and thirty five minutes from when I started it. And do you know why (an hour and thirty. Got a snack)? Because I left it to the last minute. And do you know why?

If you do, I'd be delighted if you told me. But I have a feeling that you don't either-because you leave stuff to the last minute, too. And I daresay you do it far more than you ought. I certainly do-even though I would never, ever leave work to the night before it was due back in high school. I would rather declare myself anathema. (Hour and twenty. Killing time.) I venture that a good half of ye, my fellow slackers, were the same once.

So what happened? (Why does it take five minutes to write two sentences?) Maybe some of you were motivated by others (parents) who are no longer here. I think I simply am overwhelmed, not with work, but... well... with everything. (Countdown: an hour ten.) And Fall Break, of course, let me overwhelm myself with things of which I have been deprived *coughvideogamescough*. Almost completely avoided doing any work. Until today, of course (One hour alone remains, and my dark and wicked foe, AOL Instant Messenger, steals more time by the moment. Now fifty minutes). And I'm doing a pretty respectable job of avoiding it even now, eh? (40 minutes.)

Yeah. Now what was my point again? Oh. Right. Most of us slack off a lot. The other day, I finished all my homework for the next day by 8:00 pm. And I was proud of myself for it. But when you think about it, it's extremely pathetic. It's not like I'm doing anything else more important instead of doing my work. I'm just wasting time (30. Self-loathing is on the rise. Or am I just tired? 20 now).

I want to get back to the old me. I'm sure most of us liked it better when we didn't have to stay up past midnight doing work (staying up past midnight doing other things, however...). But I don't know how to get there.

Ten minutes left.

Forget it. I can't do it. I put it off for too long. There is no time ("Things fall apart, the centre cannot hold" *The Second Coming*, W.B Yeats). And I have other work to do, too. No Spectator for me this week.

No. I still have eight minutes left. I can do it. Here goes.

Some of you are not slackers. I was once one of you. And I will be one of you again- and soon. I hope. Four. A slacker can indeed succeed at life-can do very well, in fact. There is nothing inherently wrong with the state. But still, it is better by far to be a diligent long-term planner, the one I usually am. Nevertheless, though, slackers are we.

Could someone please help us?

Hah! I'm done. It wasn't wonderful, but I think I made my point.

And look how much time I have left! For it is now...

The last minute.

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No straw men

Tolerating intolerance: Why hate speech is free speech: part 1

by Jonathan Rick '05
I&I COLUMNIST

Note: Recently two sheets of paper were anonymously slipped under the door of a gay student's room at Hamilton. They read, in part, "Leave. Or die and end the blight on humanity." In my view, such speech is not a mere taunt but an explicit threat, which is tantamount to action.

Dostoyevsky once said that we can judge a society's virtue by its treatment of prisoners. Likewise, we can judge a society's freedom by its treatment of minorities. For freedom makes it safe to be unpopular; this is why the First Amendment protects dissent. Playing the title character in the movie *The American President* (1995), Michael Douglas crystallizes this concept. "You want free speech? Let's see you acknowledge a man whose words make your blood boil, who's standing center stage and advocating at the top of his lungs that which you would spend a lifetime opposing at the top of yours."

This is of course a Tinseltown vision. What if the speaker were advocating that the state return all black people to pre-Civil War slavery? What if he were calling for a second Holocaust? Such notions represent so-called hate speech, which critics seek to criminalize. They argue that speech is a form of social power, which the historically dominant group, namely, male WASPs, employs to stigmatize and institutionally harass the Other. In this way, mere epithets can inflict acute anguish, such that certain words become more than words. *Nigger*, for instance, according to Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, "perhaps the most offensive and inflammatory racial slur in English," is abusive, intimidating and persecutory. Referring to anti-Semitism in Nazi Germany, historian Daniel Goldhagen argues that we should view "verbal violence . . . as an assault in its own right, having been intended to produce profound damage — emotional, psychological, and social — to the dignity and honor of the Jews. The wounds that people suffer by . . . listen[ing] . . . (particularly, in front of their children) to such vituperation . . . can be as bad as . . . a . . . beating."

Now, that words are never just words, critics are right. With words, an orator can touch your very soul, inciting a people to insurrection or moving a mob to vigilantism. Yet words are always just words, since the breaking of sound waves across one's ears is qualitatively different from the breaking of a baseball bat across one's back. Simply put — and it is clear-cut, despite pretentious complications by so-called critical race theorists — sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me.

Specifically, where words are nonphysical, deeds are physical. Deeds entail consequences over which one has no control; the harm is not a matter of one's volition. By contrast, one can control one's reaction to words; to what extent an epithet harms one ultimately depends on how one evaluates it. Sure, our emotions often get the better of us, but in the end, we always retain the capacity to check, and to exaggerate, their force. After all, taking responsibility for one's feelings — thinking before speaking or acting — distinguishes adults from adolescents.

Banning hate speech, then, as legal scholar Zechariah Chafee puts it, "makes a man a criminal simply because his neighbors have no self-control." Moreover, with torture chambers in Iraq, genocide in the Balkans, and suicide bombing in Israel, equating words with violence is odious.

Yet hurling forth opprobrious language silences people, critics assert. It deprives them of the equal opportunity to express themselves, and thereby victimizes them. But our laws should not promote the message, "Peter cast aspersions on Paul. Ergo, Paul is a victim." That lesson says that one should lend considerable credence to the opinions of bigots. To the contrary, one should recognize that the opinions of bigots are the opinions of bigots. Hate speech victimizes only if one grants the hater that dispensation.

Granted, this fortitude is idealistic; so is it naïve? Does it trivialize the weight words carry? I am hard-put to concede, because the law should be neither a psychiatrist nor a babysitter. I deny neither the sincerity nor the seriousness of one's pain, but I believe it is mostly psychological, and largely psychosomatic. As Ayn Rand showed in her novel *The Fountainhead,* although protagonist Howard Roark endures adversity that would shrivel most men, "It goes only down to a certain point and then it stops. As long as there is that untouched point, it's not really pain."

Am I intellectualizing or universalizing a profoundly personal response? Alan Keyes, former Assistant Secretary of State, does not think so. The push to ban hate speech, he discerns, derives from "patronizing and paternalistic assumptions. Telling blacks that whites have the . . . character to shrug off epithets, and they do not. . .. makes perhaps the most insulting, most invidious, most racist statement of all." Similarly, despite resurgent anti-Semitism — including conspiracy theories, burning cemeteries across Europe and the equation of Israelis with Nazis — Jews have not hidden behind a government gun.

Rather, alongside those who chant "Six million more," they have formed numerous organizations to combat media bias and produced several major movies about the Holocaust. Instead of sheltering themselves from such animosity, these victims have challenged it head-on. Such self-reliance is the American way.

Letters to the Editor

THE SPECTATOR'S LETTER TO THE EDITOR SECTION IS DESIGNED TO BE A FORUM FOR THE ENTIRE HAMILTON COMMUNITY TO DISCUSS AND DEBATE CAMPUS, LOCAL, NATIONAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES. PIECES PUBLISHED IN THE SECTION EXPRESS THE OPINIONS OF THE INDIVIDUAL WRITERS, AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE OPINIONS OF *THE SPECTATOR*, ITS EDITORS, ITS STAFF, OR THE MEDIA BOARD. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME FROM ALL STUDENTS, ALUMNI/AE, FACULTY, FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE, ADMINISTRATORS, AND HAMILTON COMMUNITY MEMBERS. NEVERTHELESS, THE SPECTATOR HAS THE FOLLOWING POLICIES FOR SUBMISSION:

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2. letters should be no longer than 650 words.
3. letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. the spectator will not edit letters for misspelling, poor grammar or diction.
5. the spectator reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
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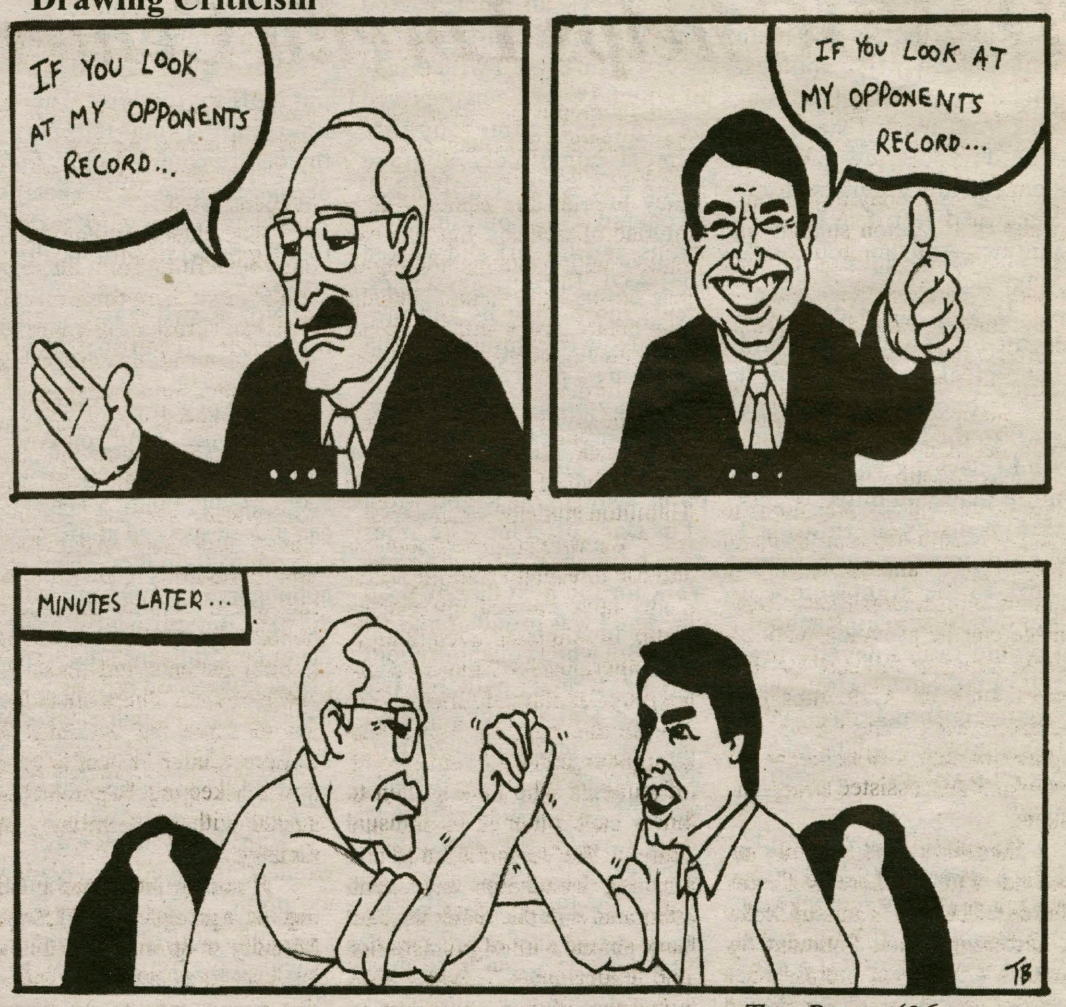
Drawing Criticism



TOM BOOTH '06

Diversity at Hamilton: creating a "telling community"

by Kristy Hauge '05
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

At the start of her presidency, Joan Hinde Stewart announced that she would prioritize increasing the diversity of the faculty and the student body, and would encourage a more inclusive campus community. As part of pursuing these goals, Hamilton recently hired Cambridge Hill Partners, a consulting firm in Boston, to help with the diversity initiative.

Hamilton's conception of diversity is broader than the Department of Education's categories for affirmative action reporting. While the government defines diversity in terms of gender and belonging to certain racial and ethnic categories, Hamilton also includes sexual orientation, geographical origin, and other cultural diversity factors.

In recent years, diversity in the student body has increased with each incoming class and has reached a high point with 17% students of color (African-American, Latina/o, Asian-American, and Native American) comprising the class of 2008. Last spring, the college hired Cambridge Hill Partners in order to help foster a more tolerant campus environment and [to] recruit a more diverse faculty and student body. According to their mission statement, "Cambridge Hill Partners is a consulting firm, specializing in higher education, focused on helping organizations reshape, reposition, and create renewed momentum, while balancing mission and market forces" (www.cambridgehill.com).

"The goal of our diversity efforts is to make Hamilton a more telling community," said Associate Dean of [the] Faculty and Diversity Coordinator, Kirk Pillow; "it's helpful to get a perspective from outside the institution."

Hamilton has long been concerned with improving campus diversity. In their exit surveys, graduating seniors, regardless of race, keep indicating that they are frustrated with the college's lack of diversity. In April of 2001, [a Diversity Task Force convened by then President Tobin announced recommendations which included broader advertisements for faculty positions in order to attract a wider applicant pool, and the establishment of a diversity coordinator position. With Tobin's resignation, many of the Task Force's recommendations were shelved until recently.

In announcing this new diversity initiative and hiring Cambridge Hill Partners, President Stewart has brought this issue back to the forefront. Specifically, the role of Cambridge Hill Partners is to administer training workshops and to offer advice on faculty recruitment. Earlier this semester, representatives of the firm came to campus in order to lead a workshop with department chairs about strategies for the employment of a more diverse faculty. These workshops extend beyond sensitivity training and move into questions of how to make positive improvements to the campus and the ways in which to improve leadership. Cambridge Hill Partners has earned a good reputation among schools in the Northeast after successfully working with Smith College, Cornell University, and Harvard University, among others. Recently, the firm met with the student Coalition for Social Justice to discuss the possibility of the firm conducting a diversity workshop with student leaders on campus.

With the hiring of Cambridge Hill Partners and implementation of the new diversity initiative, Hamilton has committed to increasing diversity and fostering a healthy environment in which it can evolve. "We want a campus where all of our students feel at home, welcome, and comfortable so they can grow to their greatest potential," said Pillow.

Currently, the student body and the faculty do not reflect the diversity of the general population, and yet Hamilton students will graduate from here into a very diverse workplace and larger community. Pillow points out that students will need the knowledge, skills, and empathy to work with a wide array of people. Also, Pillow notes that a liberal arts degree would be incomplete if Hamilton were to graduate students that are not prepared to appreciate and to work with a diverse American population.

HAVOC helps Loretto Center

by Anne Bowler '08
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

Every Monday afternoon, a group of Hamilton students put their hectic schedules on hold and travel to the Loretto Center, a Utica nursing home. Students talk and play games with the elderly, providing them with company in an environment that can sometimes be lonely.

The Loretto Center provides care for the elderly. It is home to residents with different levels of functionality and gives care to patients with mental illness. Residence can be provided with assisted living, or full care for diseases such as Alzheimer's or schizophrenia. The Center has approximately 110 residents, 87 of which are assisted living patients.

Hamilton first became involved with the Loretto Center through HAVOC's annual Make a Difference Day. Founded by juniors Kate Jurras and Rebecca Grusky, the program developed into a weekly service opportunity about a month ago. Every Monday students meet outside of ELS to carpool into Utica. Once there, they provide the center with a myriad of services. Students socialize with residents, talking or just sitting with them. Students play board games with residents and help the staff get the patients ready for dinner.

The group of students varies each week, but the numbers are impressive. Last Monday, 13 Hamilton students volunteered.

"We were surprised and excited at how many Hamilton students have showed up consistently to volunteer, even though the experience is often very challenging," explained Jurras. "Going to the nursing home has brought together a diverse group of students who have gotten to know each other in an unusual context. We've had a lot of fun forming friendships with each other and with the residents, and have shared a lot of great stories and experiences." Jurras also noted that often the best part of the excursion is when students gather together after each visit and talk about the day's events and how they can improve for the next week.

The elderly are not the only ones benefiting from the experience says founding member Rebecca Grusky. "It's enriching for me to get involved off campus and spend time with people I would otherwise never have met. It's mutually beneficial, and I would not describe it as simply community service," Grunsky stated. For many of the elderly, this is the only interaction with the world outside the nursing home they will have. Low functioning patients and those with severe mental illness often do not get to leave the building. The Loretto Center Project is geared towards keeping the patients connected with the community, says Grusky.

If you are interested in helping out, a group leaves ELS every Monday at 4p.m. The volunteering lasts for an hour and a half and the group returns to campus around 6:30p.m.

THIS WEEK IN HAMILTON HISTORY

Hamilton Hires Few Women, Minorities

Title IX Self-Evaluation reveals discrimination, recommends hiring under-represented groups

October 8, 1976

Hamilton has a disproportionately low percentage of women and minority members in its faculty and administration, according to the College's recently completed Title IX self-evaluation report.

Specific hiring and recruiting remedies aimed at bringing Hamilton's percentages up to national averages are outlined in the report.

The self-evaluation committee found that the percentage of women on Hamilton's faculty is 8.1 percent, while nation-wide at four-year private institutions it is 24.4 percent.

The nation-wide percentages of women who are full professors at comparable four-year institutions is 15.1 percent. Hamilton has no female full professors.

At the associate professor level, the nation-wide percentage of women in 20.7 percent. Hamilton's percentage at this level is 5.9 percent.

The report attributes the disproportionate distributions of women and minorities to "past, rather than present, discrimination in hiring."

Students React to Simpson Trial Verdict

October 13, 1995

A week and a half after the acquittal of former football superstar O.J. Simpson on double murder charges, student reaction continues to simmer on the Hamilton campus. A *Spectator* poll conducted this week found that a large majority of students believe Simpson is guilty, though most said that the Simpson trial jury's not guilty verdict was justified.

Of the fifty students polled, 72 percent said they believe Simpson was guilty on charges of murdering his former wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman in June of 1994. An almost equal number however, said that the jury decision to acquit Simpson on all charges was justified.

Nationally, opinions over the Simpson trail verdict have been split along racial lines, with most whites believing in Simpson's guilt while a majority of blacks and other minorities holding that he was innocent.

On the Hamilton campus, 74 percent of the students surveyed felt that the trial would lead to a heightening of racial tension in the U.S. Only four percent said the trial would lead to improved relations while 22 percent said the trail would have no effect.

"This trial really only exposed the state of race relations, which is terrible," said Mike Benton '96.

Faculty Vote By Wide Margin For Elimination of Private Societies

Near unanimous support for move in faculty meeting

October 7, 1994

In a meeting held on Tuesday, September 27, the faculty voted overwhelmingly in favor of abolishing private societies at Hamilton College. Of the estimated 80 faculty members in attendance, only one voted in the voice vote to keep the system of private societies unchanged.

This non-binding action comes at a time when many students and faculty are speculating about the fate of private societies. Their fate is expected to be decided in early 1995 when the Residential Life Committee releases its findings from the Residential Life Study.

The issue of private societies at Hamilton has been the subject of highly charged debate and controversy for several years. The faculty vote is expected to be discussed at this weekend's trustee meeting.

Hamilton Streakers tour NESCAC schools

HAMILTONSTREAKS.COM

While at Tufts during Fall Break, the Streaking Team made quite an impression upon passersby, including a tour group and a rabbi.

by Danielle Sclafani '08
FEATURES WRITER

The U.S. Postal Service: friend or foe? For many of us, during our senior year of high school, the neighborhood mailman was either our best friend or our worst enemy. He (or she) was either the carrier of big envelopes or small, good news or bad.

And when the news was bad, what did we do? Sulk, cry, scream, slam doors? Hang our heads in shame? Well, during October break, members of Hamilton College's famed Co-ed Varsity Streaking Team did something far more noble and courageous. From October 1st through 5th, seventeen members of the team toured New England liberal arts colleges registered with NESCAC.

While on tour, the team made particularly special visits to Bowdoin, Williams, Wesleyan, Colby, and Middlebury--those schools from which team members were rejected during their senior years of high school. The team says of their expedition, "Now we cavort in the verdant quadrangles which we have been denied. We mean no disrespect; we wish only to illuminate, to dazzle, to amuse and astonish. And, of course, streaking is wicked fun." The Team made appearances at all NESCAC schools and a few others closely associated with the private Ivies, such as the Seven Sisters' Smith and Wellesley (just to make sure they hit a couple all-girls schools). Altogether, the Streaking Team streaked the following schools: Middlebury, Colby, Bates, Bowdoin, Amherst, Williams, Smith, Wellesley, Tufts, Connecticut College, Trinity, Union, and Wesleyan.

Although not funded by Hamilton College, the Streaking Team was very well equipped while on tour. They traveled on a thirty-foot Winnebago C380 with aluminum running boards, an outdoor entertainment system, and a 6.8L V10. In addition to visiting the thirteen colleges, Team captain Pete Holzaepfel '05 stated that the tour would also include "partying [our] faces off, face painting at local childrens' festivals, attending New Hampshire bullfights on acid, [and] painting the RV in Day-Glo colors."

What's more, the tour did not simply consist of running naked across various football fields throughout New England; streaking is–and has always been a serious event: "warm-ups are integral to any competition [and] Persian anthem trance is key," said Holzaepfel.

While "running naked is always a creative experience," masks, air horns, Hamilton regalia (including a large "H" flag), emergency whistles, and a portable PA system are important additions to any streaking event.

According to the *Tufts Daily*, when the team arrived at Tufts University "they began their run on the roof of the library with a round of calisthenics. Classics graduate student Ryan Hughes witnessed these warm-ups from the windows of the Classics Department in Eaton Hall. 'Well, it was exciting enough to make me put down my Latin homework,' he said. The Streakers then ran around the quad with whistles and a megaphone, stopping to take a group photo at the statue of Jumbo. Team members also claim to have passed– and possibly offended–both a tour group and a rabbi...The team did have a brief encounter with the Tufts University Police Department (TUPD), who 'told us to put our clothes back on,' Craig Moores said."

However, for the most part, the Streakers found most schools "receptive" of their visits. At Tufts, Craig Moores '05 said he "got a bunch of high fives on the quad." But, despite Tufts welcoming composure, "the team unanimously agreed, that Bates had been the best stop. 'A bunch of Bates kids dropped their stuff and joined in,' Moores said." These individuals were later invited by the Streakers to Hamilton for the Fall Invitational on the weekend of October 24 and 25.

Founded by Matt Stringer '03, the Hamilton Streaking Team is, according to their press release, "comprised of individuals who wish to make the Northeast United States a safer and more accepting place for humanity. The team is dedicated to spreading love for and awareness of the body, to enlighten and enliven unsuspecting spectators." Many of the individuals on Hamilton's Streaking Team were inspired to become members for a variety of reasons. For Matt Stringer it was because he believes that "naked time is special time," and Moores said he "was born naked." Pete Holzaepfel's source of inspiration was a little bit different: "One night I was in the middle of a Reader's Digest and was asked to run naked across the Dark Side quad with Stringer and Damien Ellens '03. I proceeded to vomit all over my leg and inner thigh, and never looked back."

Being a member of the Streaking Team is not an easy task. It takes true men and women to fulfill what is required of a committed and respected Hamilton Streaker. "In the past I was unable to keep up with the team," said Andrew Glossner '06. "I carried a backpack with my clothes and would duck under the Martin's Way Bridge to get dressed. In the last six months, vigorous team workouts have sculpted my physique and stamina."

At times an audience may respond awkwardly. They may become overwhelmed and just stop walking, only to look down and fold their arms across their chests. Overall, however, the Hamilton Streakers feel supported and well received by the Hamilton Community and now, the NESCAC at large.

If you would like to become a Hamilton Streaker, would like to view recent photographs or get more information, visit www.hamiltonstreaks.com. Tryouts for the team consist of showing up and getting naked.

Fallcoming 2004 Schedule

Friday, October 8

10 a.m.- 5 p.m. Emerson Gallery Exhibition: Inside the Floating World: Japanese Prints from the Lenoir C. Wright Collection
4 p.m. Women's Soccer: Hamilton vs. Vassar, *Love Field*
4 p.m. Women's Field Hockey: Hamilton vs. RPI, *Campus Road Turf Field*
4 p.m. Emerson Gallery Event: Tea Ceremony Performed by Hiroko Seno. Emerson Gallery, *Christian A. Johnson Hall*
7:30 p.m. Kirkland Project Series: A Reading by Novelist Dorothy Allison, *Chapel*
9 p.m. The John Pizzarelli Trio with Special Guest Bucky Pizzarelli H'03 Wellin Hall, *Schambach Center for Music and the Performing Arts*
9 p.m. DebateWatch Sponsored by the Levitt Center he Hub, *Bristol Center*

Saturday, October 9

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Emerson Gallery Exhibition: Inside the Floating World: Japanese Prints from the Lenoir C. Wright Collection
11 a.m. Hamilton Invitational: Women's Cross Country
11:30 a.m. Hamilton Invitational: Men's Cross Country
12:00 Hamilton-Shenendoah Invitational: Men's Golf, *Shenendoah Golf Club, Turning Stone Resort, Verona, NY*
12:00 - 2 p.m. Fallcoming Lunch, *Soper Hall of Commons*
1 p.m. Football: Hamilton vs. Trinity, *Steuben Field*
2 p.m. Women's Soccer: Hamilton vs. RPI, *Love Field*
2 p.m. Women's Field Hockey: Hamilton vs. Vassar, *Campus Road Turf Field*
3 - 4:30 p.m. Inaugural Event: Alumni of Color - Students of Color Mentoring Program Sponsored by the Ad Hoc Committee on Multicultural Alumni Relations Dwight Lounge, *Bristol Center*
3 - 5 p.m. Jazz Archive Open House Lower Level, *McEwen Hall*
7:30 p.m. Keynote Lecture: Sports: The Hype and the Hoopla presented by Frank Deford, *Chapel*
9 p.m. Reception and Book Signing with Frank Deford Dwight Lounge, *Bristol Center*

Sunday, October 10

9 a.m. Hamilton-Shenendoah Invitational: Men's Golf, *Shenendoah Golf Club, Turning Stone Resort, Verona, NY*
11 a.m. Alumni Soccer Game, *Love Field*
1 - 5 p.m. Emerson Gallery Exhibition: Inside the Floating World: Japanese Prints from the Lenoir C. Wright Collection

Kirner-Johnson renovation: what is going on?

by Michelle Butler '06
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

Many have heard discussion of the proposed renovation to KJ, but have lingering questions like: What does the renovation include? When will the construction begin? Is it even really happening? For those of you who have been wondering about the plans for the expansion of KJ, here are some answers.

According to Vice President of Administration and Finance Karen Leach, Kirner-Johnson was built in 1968. The lifespan of these buildings is typically 40 years, so KJ is in need of general renovation to reach modern efficiency. At the present, it is extrememly expensive to heat during the long Central New York winters; therefore, the heating system needs to be modernize simply to cut heating costs. Not only does the entire building need to be renovated, but the plans also call for an addition of about 35,000 square feet to be built.

However, the real focus of the expansion project is to improve student-teacher relations and provide students with a fostering learning environment. The expanded student population size has overtaken the small space available.

How is the college able to afford this project, which will cost an estimated $23 million? Vice President Leach says that the school will borrow half of the money, and hopefully raise the other half.

Conversations began in the mid 1990's among the faculty and administration about the desire to unite the social sciences in the same building and to have larger spaces for learning. With support from the president and the deans, initial planning for the project began in 1999. The architecture group Ewing Cole Cherry Brott has been hired to formulize conceptual drawings to be presented at the December Board meeting. Once approved, construction planning will begin in 2006. There is an estimated 18-month construction period, meaning the project would be completed by 2008.

So how exactly will this new project enhance higher learning? One of the first steps to improve student-faculty interaction is to provide faculty members with larger offices. The typical office size will be increased by 175 square feet, allowing room not just for a desk and bookshelves, but also space to meet with two or more students at a table, with room to move around.

Secondly, there will be a combination of small group study rooms in close proximity to faculty offices. This way, faculty members will have even more space to hold group meetings. There will also be a common or "forum" area for students to gather to study together, also close to the new faculty offices.

PHOTO BY BOBBY COLE '06

After renovations to KJ are completed in 2008, Dean Paris forsees the space becoming "the library of south campus."

Dean of the Faculty David Paris noted that these plans "anticipate better classrooms." Several classrooms will be added to accommodate the smaller class sizes of seminar courses. "Tiered classrooms" will also be created in KJ; these rooms will have two U-shaped rows with tables and comfortable chairs. This type of academic setting has proved to help improve teaching, discussions, and class interactions.

Paris also added that spaces for the Levitt Center, the Writing Center, and the Oral Communications Center would be improved as well.

Once constructed, the building will be open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, providing students with a better space for studying late at night. Vice President Leach sees it as being "the library of south campus."

KJ will also serve as an excellent community space, and will "create a magnet at the end of Martin's Way," according to Paris. Dean Paris also pointed out the renovation project is "the first step in revitalizing, then renovating, south campus." Plans to improve the visual and performing arts centers are in the near future as well. Overall, this project, as a direct request from the faculty, will help Hamilton develop as one of the top liberal arts schools.

What is a Career Luncheon??

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It's for ALL class years!

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(be sure to sign up, as space is limited)

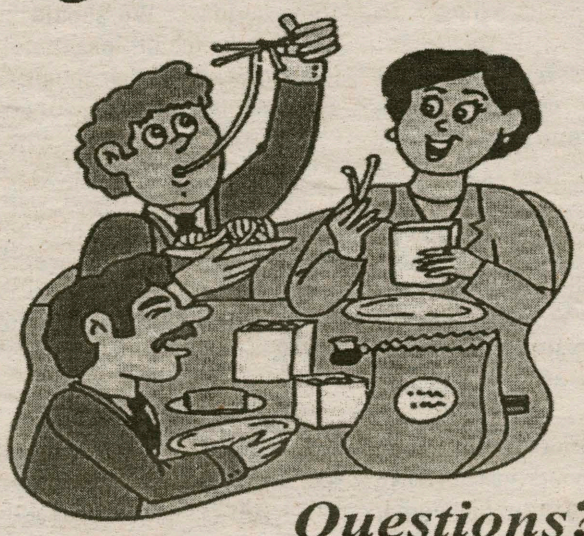
How can I sign up??

On eRecruiting! (no resume needed!)
http://hamilton.erecruiting.com

Upcoming Luncheons:

October

Dorothy Allison (social justice & writing)
Rhonda Bent' 94 (State Department)
Maria Reade '86 (private school teaching)
Karen McDonnell '91 (careers in public health)
Duke Nicholas School for the Environment
Graduate School of Architecture, Syracuse University



November

Peace Corps
Overland Adventures

Questions? Call us at 4346!

Business & Economics

Finance 101... because Hamilton doesn't offer it

This week: stocks and preferred stocks

by Tim Foley '06
BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS EDITOR

Stocks are the single most popular type of security. Stocks are in the news every day, and the **stock market** is often viewed as an indicator of the broader economy.

Once reserved for the wealthy, investing in stocks has become a hobby for anyone with a little extra time and money. Chances are, part of your college tuition is being paid for by money earned from investing in the stock market. Yet even with a celebrity status, most people know stocks only for their ability to create or deplete fortunes. A basic understanding of stocks and the stock market can dispel common myths and allow you to intelligently contribute to conversations on the subject.

Companies issue stock in order to raise money for expansion or major expenditures. Stock is first issued through an initial public offering, or **IPO**. Before a firm "goes public," it is usually owned by an individual or group of individuals. An IPO transforms a privately-held company into a publicly-held company, meaning the company's owners are now its **stockholders**. A firm can also issue stock after its IPO to raise new capital or attract new shareholders.

Google, the internet search engine, recently became a publicly held company through an IPO. The company issued just over 19.6 million shares of stock at a price of $85 each. As a result, $1.67 billion flowed into the young firm. Google co-founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin each earned millions off the deal as well, selling-off some of their interest in the company. While not all of us will be able to create our own multibillion-dollar corporation from scratch, we can all own a piece of one.

Simply put, owning a stock is like owning a tiny slice of a company. Stocks are also called **shares** or **equity**. In regards to Google, owning one share means the stockholder lays claim to 1/19.6 millionth of every dollar the firm earns and everything owned by the company, but please don't go to the Google headquarters asking for your share of the furniture, real estate, and company vehicles. Though a shareholder owns assets and earnings of the company, his or her liability is limited. If Google were to go bankrupt, a shareholder can only lose the value of the stock, not his or her personal belongings. In addition to claims on assets and earnings, shareholders also gain the right to vote, not on the daily operations of the firm, but on its board of directors.

Shareholder's **voting rights** are very similar to the voting rights of a U.S. citizen. Though we cannot call our national leaders and expect an immediate change, we can vote for who runs our country. A company's **board of directors** makes most of the major decisions as to the executives of the firm and its future direction. Shareholders can cast one vote per share held for whomever they believe should be on the board of directors. One major decision directors make is whether or not to pay out a dividend to shareholders.

Portions of a firm's profits can be distributed to shareholders in the form of **dividends**. Tobacco companies, due to their incredible profits, pay some of the highest dividends. **Reynolds American**, parent company to RJR Tobacco, pays an annual dividend of $3.80 per share. Other firms pay no dividend at all and reinvest all profits into the company. Usually, common stock is differentiated from preferred stock by dividend payments.

Most publicly held firms also offer **preferred stock** to their investors. Purchasing preferred stock is often synonymous with sacrificing voting rights for a higher dividend payment and a higher claim to assets. So, while preferred stockholders have no influence on the board of directors, they receive higher annual dividend payments and would be paid back before common stockholders if the company were to go bankrupt. The market price of a preferred stock is also less volatile than that of a common stock, but that will be discussed next week, when *Finance 101* will cover the stock market.

Business Profile: Roma's Italian Bistro

Owner Ron Roma hopes to translate love for food into a top-notch dining experience

by Tim Foley '06
BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS EDTOR

After showing me the future site of Roma's Italian Bistro, owner Ron Roma and I returned to Roma's Pizzeria to talk about his plans for the future. The business has been leased out for over ten years, and Ron is visibly excited to be at the helm again. He has big dreams for his business and the motivation to make them all come true. Mr. Roma's story is one of ups and downs, but he shows that perseverance can overcome any hardship. Read the article on page 1 to learn about his new restaurant.

Besides Roma's, do you have any other businesses?
Well, I've been in business on my own since 1970. I own a pastry shop with a partner. It has been very successful. Everyone needs wedding cakes and treats for graduations. I love doing food, that's where it is for me. I've learned three things in life: people have to eat, people have to pay taxes and unfortunately, people have to pass away. So you either get into the food business, the tax business or the funeral business. Hosting funerals and collecting taxes is not my style, so I do food.

Being a small business owner, how involved are you in the day to day operations?
I have to be here all the time. I make all the dough and all the sauce just to make sure it is top quality. I have to look out for my business, and I have a certain way I like doing things, so I'm here every day to make sure that things are running smoothly.

What do you do if you notice that some part of your business is lagging?
Well, I talk to the community, ask for opinions and see what people may or may not like. I take everyone's thoughts, including my employees, and I sit down and look at everything as one big picture. In business today, you can't just go by your decisions, because you can make an honest mistake. If you take a larger group, the truth usually comes out. Most of the people in the group will agree on what's wrong.

How quickly do you set this plan in motion?
Instantly. You can't keep going with a bad decision because eventually it will drain you and hurt your business. I try not to look back, and I love everything I do. I've been very successful when I have been running the business. When we were leasing the business out, it wasn't being run well, so we made the decision to step back in and get it on track.

Over the past few years, there has been an economic recession. Has your business been affected?
It affects everybody even if they don't realize it. When parents have extra money, they are more likely to go out for dinner. Now, they have to cut back because there are some expenses that they can't get rid of like insurance and house payments. Mom might have to cook more and dad has to work extra hours just to make ends meet. Luxuries like dining out might be cut out. If their income goes down, I get less business and I order less from wholesalers. It trickles all the way to the top. It's the same with college kids. Their parents are earning less money, so a lot of college kids have less money to spend. It affects everyone. Everyone has to cut something out when there's less money to spend.

What is one thing that the President could do to help small business owners like yourself?
Insurance is the biggest issue for all small businesses today. Everyone needs health insurance, and most small business owners supply it, but it is very expensive. We have one of the greatest countries to live in, and we have so much money. It makes no sense how the United States cannot supply health insurance for all of its workers. Every time we go to war, we spend millions rebuilding the countries we destroy. What about our people here today? Everyone has health issues, some serious. We should be able to take the billions of dollars we spend on other countries and guarantee that every American doesn't have to be concerned if he or she can afford to be sick or can afford a hospital visit. Even major corporations are cutting back on insurance coverage. I wish there was a way the President could see this and address it.

As far as your business cycle, does it rotate around the college schedule?
Sure, when college lets out, things slow down for a couple of weeks. Pretty soon though, summer camps start, and we take care of most of the Summer camps. If any business owner here in Clinton told you they didn't see a drop when college lets out, I'd disagree with them.

What makes a good business owner?
Being involved with the community. Taking a hands-on approach to any problems. Knowing what the people are looking for. Having a good reputation. If you find a business owner who is very involved in the community, he or she will do very well. If you find a business owner who is only in it for himself and isn't involved in the community, it just won't work. If you support the community, people will support you.

Have you made any major changes recently?
We have pretty much put any changes on hold until we move into the new restaurant on October 13th.

What's the toughest decision you've had to make?
Firing someone. The bottom line is that there's no friendship in business. I'm here to run a business for the community, so friendship stops at the door. If you have a friend working for you and he or she isn't doing well, you have to let them go. As much as you like your friend, you have to watch out for the customers. It's a very bad idea to hire friends.

What has been your best decision?
Taking Roma's back.

Any advice for an aspiring business owner?
They need to learn how hard it is. Running a business is your life. I work every day except Christmas. That's the bottom line.

You are looking at the Spectator's new Business and Economics section. We are looking for writers to cover current economic events, conduct interviews or summarize economic research projects. If you're interested in any of these ideas or have one of your own, please contact tfoley@hamilton.edu.

Financial Market Report: 9/24-10/7

Locked in "rally mode," stocks trade at four-month high

by Dave Kelland '05
BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS WRITER

After bottoming out at around 1101 during the last week of September, stocks have been locked in rally mode, trading as high as 1142 this Wednesday, a level not seen since June.

A number of factors have contributed to the recent strength in the equities market, including corporate earnings, seasonality, and a brightening technical picture. The seasonality effect may have contributed to the gains, as stocks have historically been much stronger in the late fall and winter than during the rest of the year. The 15 point gain last Friday was fueled in part by the S&P 500's break above its 200-day moving average.

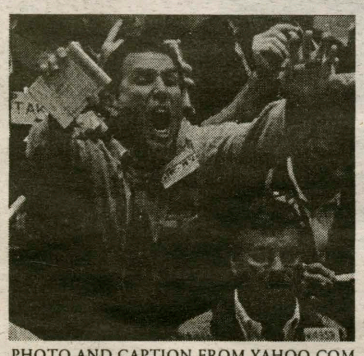


PHOTO AND CAPTION FROM YAHOO.COM

A New York Mercantile Exchange trader shouts an order across a trading pit on October 6, 2004 in New York.

The internet sector has continued to benefit from the rally, with Ebay shares making a record high of 96.78 on Wednesday. Google, which had its Initial Public Offering in mid-August, have since gained more than 35%. In the semiconductor industry, Intel seems to have finally bottomed at about $21 after retreating from its 52-week high of $34.60.

Investors took profits in U.S. Treasuries over the past two weeks, with the yield on the 30-year bond rising to 5.00%. In shorter maturities, the 10-year note's yield rose to 4.25% and the 5-year yield climbed to 3.53%. Russian sovereign bonds gained on Wednesday on an improved outlook from Moody's, the credit rating agency. The Russian economy, which is heavily weighted in oil production, has benefited handsomely from the recent run-up in crude oil prices. The announcement caused the spreads between Russian and U.S. 30-year bonds to tighten to 213 basis points or 2.13%, because the market now perceives Russia, which defaulted on its debt in the summer of 1998, to be less risky.

In commodities, light sweet crude oil has remained strong on fears of supply disruption in Nigeria. The analysts citing "obvious" inverse relationships between share prices and oil prices may have finally been silenced as oil and stocks have both been strong recently, with oil futures touching $53 Thursday. Gold has continued its course higher, trading around $418 on Thursday. Traders seem to be positioning for a test of its multi-year high of $433. It is important to remember that gold, being denominated in U.S. dollars, may simply be reflecting the weakness of the dollar relative to the Euro.

In currency trading, the pound, which is currently at $1.78, has been weak as of late, partly on news of falling industrial production in the United Kingdom. The currency markets may be expecting that interest rates there have peaked, which would imply lower prices for the pound. The Euro remains range-bound at $1.23 and the dollar has risen to 111 Yen.

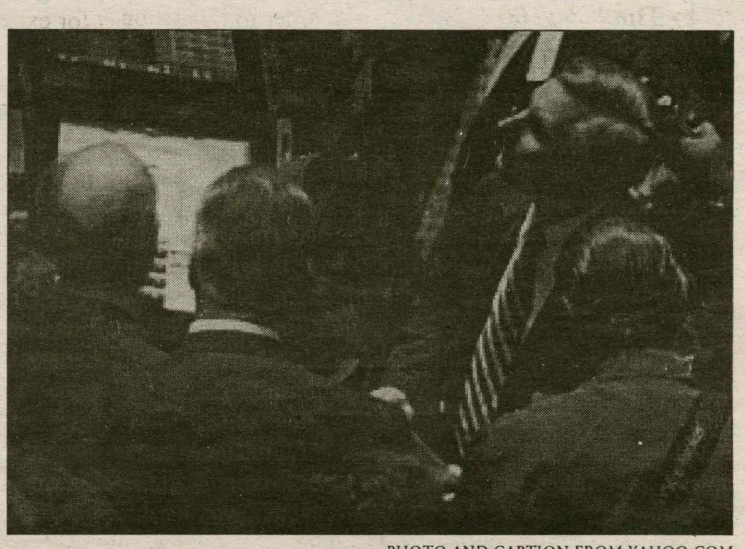
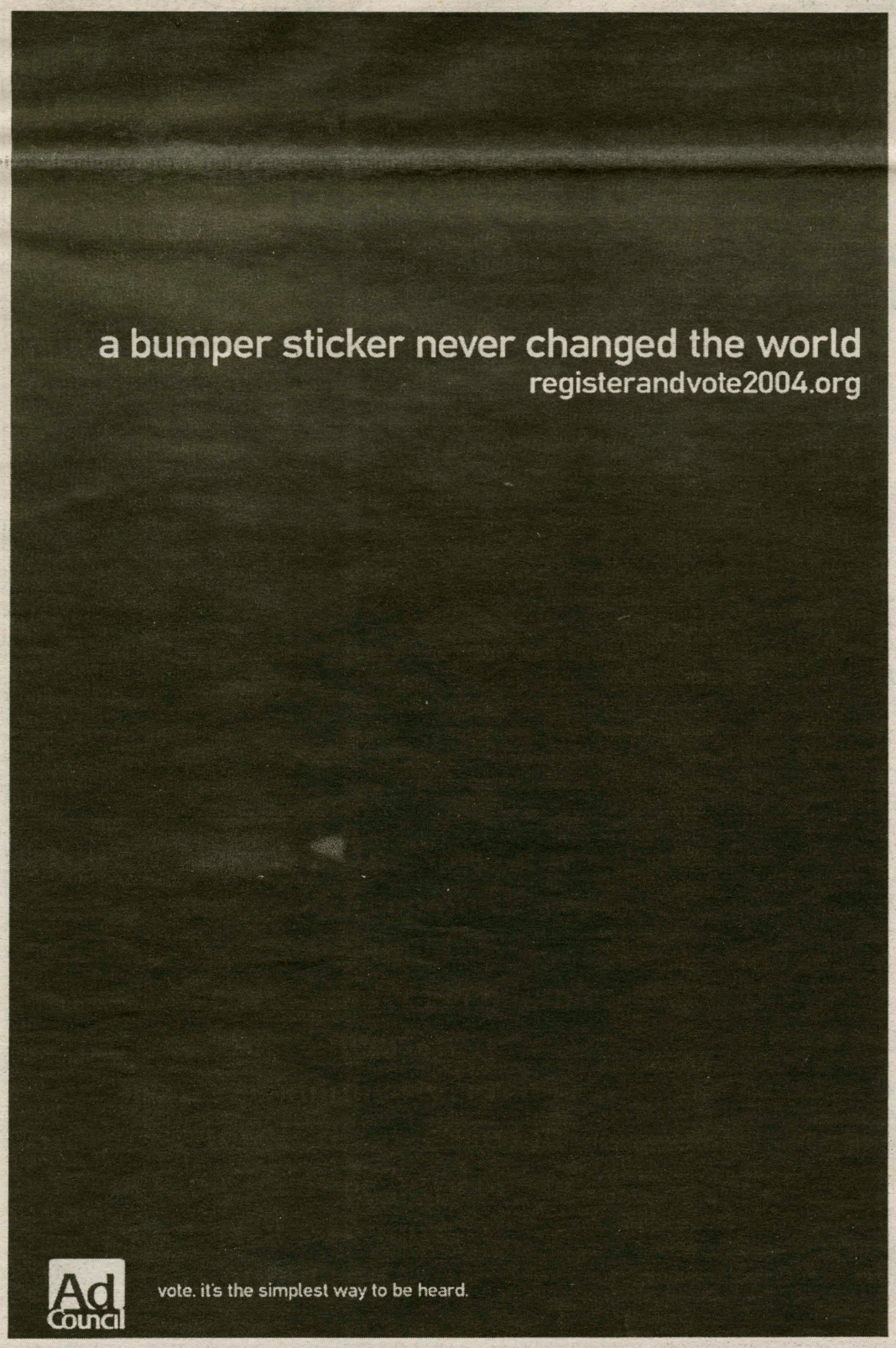


PHOTO AND CAPTION FROM YAHOO.COM

Traders on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange gather around a trading post and watch the monitors as the Dow slips in early trading, October 6, 2004.



Under new ownership, Roma's Italian Bistro looking for a few good cooks and servers

*from **Roma's**, page 1*

of town next to a fish market. Three years after Roma's debut, the fish market caught fire and brought the pizzeria down with it. Roma's relocated to the current location of the Nice 'N Easy, across the street from Dunkin Donuts. Shortly thereafter, the restaurant moved to its present home next to the bowling alley.

Seven years after opening the business, the original owners leased it to another party. In 2003, after changing hands a few times, the Roma family decided to take the business back and start construction on the new restaurant. However, the new restaurant would still only be a dream without approval from the Town of Clinton.

Roma Said the process of gaining authorization from the Town of Clinton was long and arduous. Mr. Roma had to attend many meetings, make many proposals and answer many questions about his plans for the new complex. "The town has guidelines," Roma said, "and in order to create a successful business, I have to follow them."

In addition, the proposed site of the new restaurant is considered an historical landmark. "What the town doesn't want is a wild, unregulated bar scene," continued Roma. With an extensive security system and plenty of guidelines, Roma intends to avoid any dangerous or raucous situations. "In the end," Roma said, "it will benefit everyone in the community."

The new facility will bring in tax revenue for the Town of Clinton and add approximately 100 jobs to the community. Eight licensed culinary chefs have already been hired, and Mr. Roma is looking for members of the community and Hamilton College students to fill the roles of short order cooks and servers. College students and Clinton families will have a new, moderately priced dining option. Roma hopes that the affordable and diverse menu will allow families and students to return to the restaurant more than once a week.

Roma's future plans include the option for Hamilton students to use campus dollars at his establishment. Many other small colleges already allow their students to swipe their meal card at restaurants and stores in the surrounding community. Until Hamilton approves the plan, Roma will offer the Roma's Card. Similar to a debit card, owners can add money to their account and use it for anything Roma's offers.

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Arts & Entertainment

Liberal Arts premieres to a house packed with people and with laughter

by Tim Mudie '05
A&E EDITOR

It was Friday, September 24, and the KJ Auditorium was fuller than I have ever seen it. What occassion could fill the auditorium to bursting? Was it a lecture? Was it some great speaker? Were they giving away free Opus cookies? No, these people were here to see the world premiere of *Liberal Arts*, a full-length film written, produced, directed by and starring Hamilton students. Also, there was free popcorn.

Yes, this was truly an exciting event. The cast and crew were all there, eager to see the fruits of their months of labor. They were joined not only by students from all years, but by family members, professors and none other than Dean Paris himself. You could feel the emotions in the room. Excitement, anxiety, other emotions that I don't even know the words for: all were present as the movie was about to begin. The lights went down, the crowd went silent (for about fifteen seconds) and the film began.

Produced by Whit Rothe '05, directed by Justin Thompson Tucker '05, co-written by both, and shot by Matthew Kotowski '05. *Liberal Arts* is what is known as a "mockumentary." Basically, the film is scripted, there are actors playing characters, but everyone acts as though the film is a documentary, in this case on college life at the small, liberal arts school Hillsbrook College. No one can make a movie of this sort without bringing up Christopher Guest and Eugene Levy, who were behind *Best in Show*, *Waiting for Guffman* and other great mockumentaries. The makers of *Liberal Arts*"acknowledge this, even thanking the men in the closing credits. (See, I even read all the credits! What a great reviewer I am.)

The film focuses on the lives of six students, all from different walks of life. There's Freddie Barrows (Matthew Packard '07), the popular guy, a brother, wanted by all the ladies. There's Carl Norman (Pete Harmelin '05), the nerd who is secretly in love with Sara Gray (Sarah Greenberg '06), the sorority girl who sleeps around... a lot. There's Matthew Holbrook (Daniel Leonard '04), a TV junkie accidentally placed in a room with Carl. Then there's the ultra-sporty girl, Samantha Granger (Amy Schloerb '06), friends with Carl and infatuated with Freddie. Lastly, there is Alison Gardiner (Jen Sunderlin '04), the artistic girl and head of a cappella group Stumbling Forward.

All of these characters are at least tangentially connected, the sort of connections that one has in college, particularly a small liberal arts college like Hamilton... I mean Hillsbrook.

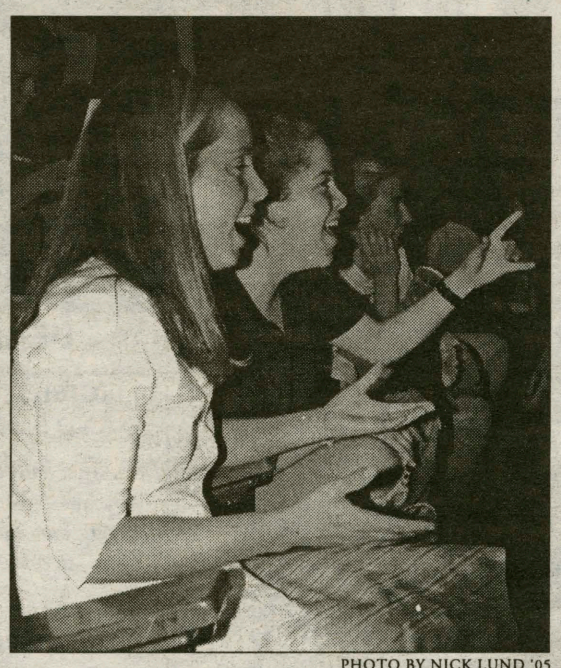


PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

Capacity audiences packed into the KJ Auditorium to laugh along with the world premiere of *Liberal Arts*.

At the beginning of the film I found it hard to get into the characters. Partly, I'm sure this was due to the fact that I know a number of the actors in the film. I mean, I was sitting next to "Alison." However, after maybe ten minutes I was no longer watching the screen thinking "Oh, here's Pete," but, "Oh, here's Carl." What made the characters come alive was that we do not only see them interacting with other characters, but talking to the camera. We get to see what the characters are actually thinking, which gives them a much greater depth. It seems also that the actors were most comfortable doing those scenes.

The acting was crisper and more realistic in the "interview" scenes for all characters. Some, of course gave superlative performances in all aspects. The scene where Matthew's TV stops working, forcing him to wander the campus in search of a working one, made the movie for me. The look of confusion on his face is absolutely priceless. Likewise excellent were Carl and Benjamin Critton '06, playing an overzealous Campus Safety officer bent on preventing the unofficial Board Game club from playing "Risk." Every time he was on the screen, the audience was laughing.

I don't think I would be wrong in saying that Rothe and Thompson-Tucker relate more to the Carls and Samanthas of the movie than to the fraternity and sorority characters, but they still make sure to give those characters three dimensions. Sara is the one exception; she is the embodiment of the worst aspects of a sorority girl. But, while she may not have the deepest character, she is at least recognizable.

But how much resonance will *Liberal Arts* have with an audience not familiar with the liberal arts experience? That, my friends, is the question and I honestly have to say that I have no idea. Maybe people won't understand that in a college of this size, everyone really does know everyone. In the end, I guess the people who choose which films will be shown at Sundance will have to decide that (yes, the movie is being sent for consideration in Sundance, which is super-sweet). But for people familiar with the liberal arts college experience, this movie certainly hits home. I laughed my sexy ass off when Freddie and Sara have a deep conversation about their break-up, complete with appropriate music, over IM.

As with (I would argue) all mockumentaries, *Liberal Arts* is a character driven movie. But even character driven movies need a good narrative, and *Liberal Arts* does not have anything that the story is working towards. *Guffman* culminated with the premiere of their play, *Best in Show* had the climactic dog show. *Liberal Arts* does not have that. The

*see **Student Movie**, page 18*

New film production guild is ready for action

by Andrew Whalen '08
A&E CONTRIBUTOR

There is no more difficult an environment for an art form than commercialization. Oversaturation leads to acceptance and complacency. For example, rarely does any one of us consider the artistic license and creativity that goes into the development of our shoes. They have become a product, regardless of how much time was put into their design. The same fate has very nearly befallen cinema. Since the days of Melies' *A Trip to the Moon* (famously ripped off in a Smashing Pumpkins music video), film has become the artistic outcast, more a commercial endeavor than an artistic one.

When plunking down seven dollars to watch two hours of Hollywood explosions, violence and vulgar jokes, it is hard to keep in mind just how much work and love is put into even the most garish and commercialized of productions. Mainly thanks to the money-grubbing of Hollywood, movies have become a passive experience that we take for granted as being easy entertainment, although the medium holds promise for so much more.

IMAGES.GOOGLE.COM

Although George Lucas may not be a member of the Hamilton Film Production Guild, we are sure he would approve.

The only way to combat this prevailing wave of apathy is through education. This is where the Film Production Guild enters the ring. After all, last I checked, education is what Hamilton is all about. A new club dedicated to the teaching of every aspect of film creation, the Film Production Guild aims to fill a large gap in our campus community. No longer must itchy camera-fingers be left itchy. No longer do writers need to experience brain hemorrhaging for lack of a creative outlet.

The Film Production Guild is here for you. Originally conceived as a network of support for budding filmmakers, the Film Production Guild is quickly rocketing into something more exciting. At each Wednesday meeting, a new ability and talent will be highlighted and taught in a workshop format.

The goal is for each member to become proficient in the technical and more abstract aspects of filmmaking. Of course, the final test will be when Guild members develop and shoot their own short films. Beyond expanding the abilities of its members, the Film Production Guild also intends to extend a love for film to the entire campus, through planned activities such as an upcoming 24 hour film contest.

For anyone that holds even a casual interest in screenwriting, directing, editing, acting or make-up and set design, the Film Production Guild would love to hear from you. Now is the perfect time to get involved in what has been called "the most exciting development since pockets". The time is right for this to happen. At schools across the nation, film is becoming recognized more and more as an art form and an important expression of our national identity.

At many schools film studies has become their newest major. Yet, in this respect Hamilton languishes far behind. In the showing and production of film, we are sorely lacking. Where once Hamilton had two film societies, one dedicated to the showing of classic films and the other to blockbusters, only the latter remains. There was simply not enough interest to bring classic films to campus any longer. Through the Film Production Guild, this apathy towards cinema may one day become only a memory.

Catch Meg Swertlow '04's television debut on *Joan of Arcadia*!

Friday, October 8 (that's tonight) 8:00 p.m. on CBS

And see her this weekend in *Liberal Arts*!

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 4:00 p.m. in KJ Auditorium.

Mithat's Gaming Corner Presents: *Doom 3*

"I personally approve of this game review." - Mithat

by Chris Takacs '05
SENIOR EDITOR

If you've been craving gore, violence, demons, and the beautiful Martian landscape, then *Doom 3*, my friend, was made for you. The hard workers at idSoftware, having taken a leisurely decade or so to come up with the third in their series of anti-demonic Machine-gun-toting shoot-em-ups, and the end result does not disappoint.

The plot of the game-sparse at times-is similar to that of the first *Doom*. You play a soldier who must fight demons transported through the gates of hell... on Mars. The game doesn't get much deeper than that, which is disappointing, seeing as how well the designers did on the rest of it. Still, those of you who reminisce about the good-old-days of basic shoot-em-up fun will find everything you want in *D3*.

The first thing you will notice about the game are its incredible graphics. The lighting is exquisite, matched only by the designers' attention to visual detail. The fact that the game was designed to be ideally played with not only the most advanced video cards on the market, but some that hadn't even been released yet, puts the game in a graphics league that no other game (perhaps with the exceptions of *Half Life 2* and *Halo 2*) will match for a while. *D3* makes up for its shortcomings in the plot category by being beautiful, dark, creepy, and altogether stunning. If for nothing else, play the game for an unbeatable visual experience.

The graphics of big games can be and often are let down by poor sound quality. Here, *D3* does not disappoint. In developing the game's somber and all-too-often frightening mood, the designers have integrated a diverse and startling array of effects to match what you see on the screen.

IMAGES.GOOGLE.COM

***Doom 3* offers endless battles with aliens, mutants, and zombies, some of which have definitely had their fill of brains.**

Doom 3's gameplay can be described accurately in one word: terrifying. The game keeps you constantly on the edge of your seat, with demons waiting around each corner, in the dark passages that you easily wander pass unknowingly, and, as always, under the stairways you forgot to check. Every minute of gameplay contains a surprise, often horrible and gruesome, but nevertheless engaging. My first reaction, after playing for about an hour, was that the shock-and-terrify campaign the game seems to run against its players would eventually wear off, leaving a plain shoot-em-up with nice graphics. I was wrong. *Doom 3* constantly and continually surprises, and even after having played through most of it, I noticed that my teeth still clenched together and my knees still shook whenever I heard the familiar noise of a Cacodemon sneaking up behind me. The game was made to soil underwear, and at many times, comes awkwardly close to fulfilling its goal.

Hands down, *Doom 3* is the most stunning game of the year so far. If you buy *Half-Life 2* and *Halo 2*, make sure you buy *Doom 3* first, and whet your palate with an altogether superb gaming experience.

Doom 3 operates on PC, and will be releaed for Xbox soon.

Doom 3 gets 9.5 Hellspawn out of 10

Reading for fun with Mary Jane Clark

by Caroline Abbey '06
A&E WRITER

Okay, reading for fun might not be something college students do very often since reading for courses takes up most of our time, but I'm going to recommend that you all give it a try. Remember the first book reports you wrote? You got to pick any book you wanted, and maybe make a pretty poster or write a little creative assignment that allowed you to rewrite the ending of the book. I hope you're remembering how much fun reading was back when you could choose any book you wanted. It seems that in college, even if the assigned reading is enjoyable, it's hard to really love it because of the time constraints under which you must read it.

Now that you've decided to give this a try (or at least I hope you have), we need to pick a book. You're in luck; I have a recommendation: *Nowhere to Run*, by Mary Jane Clark. This book is already out in paperback so it's not going to cost you more than about $7. Mary Jane Clark works as a producer and writer at CBS News and she incorporates much of her first hand knowledge about the world of news stations into her books. Many of her books, including *Nowhere to Run*, center around the fictional KEY News station and the many people who work there. You may have realized that Mary Jane Clark sounds an awful lot like the extremely popular Mary Higgins Clark. It turns out that Mary Jane Clark is actually Mary Higgins Clark's former daughter in law. Sounds like a crazy family, but Higgins Clark must have rubbed off on Jane Clark because their styles are similar, always drawing the reader into page turner suspense novels and keeping them guessing until the very end.

Nowhere to Run centers around a producer at KEY News named Annabelle. Annabelle, a working mother of twins, juggles dealing with her husband's post-September 11th depression, and her very demanding job at KEY News. The book opens with a medical update by Dr. John Lee on KEY News. Lee presents the American public with a test tube of what he claims is real anthrax. Of course this stunt causes an uproar in the station, the media, and the American public. The story then follows the investigation at KEY News as to how Lee got hold of the anthrax, whether anyone has been exposed to the disease, and so on. As the story unfolds there are various deaths, including a murder, and a few due to exposure to anthrax. Annabelle works throughout the novel to discover why certain people have died, and who stole the anthrax test tube originally presented by Dr. Lee. Various characters look guilty at different times, so it's virtually impossible to decide who the culprit is until the end.

This book is definitely considered "light" reading, but it's also extremely enjoyable. If you are looking for a fun page turner to take your mind off of the sheer volume of school related reading, I suggest you pick up *Nowhere to Run*, or any of Clark's seven other novels.

He likes Jersey best: John Pizzarelli Trio to perform in Wellin

by Monk Rowe
JAZZ ARCHIVE DIRECTOR

This Friday night at 9 p.m. Wellin Hall will be the hippest place this side of the Mississippi. Guitarist and singer John Pizzarelli will offer up his unique blend of hot and cool, combining virtuoso seven string guitar work with a vocal delivery reminiscent of Sinatra and Nat King Cole. But that's only the beginning. John leads one of the few working jazz groups in the business and the John Pizzarelli Trio will show you what ten years together can do for a musical outfit.

In Ray Kennedy, John has found one of the few pianists who can match him lick for lick for lick. Their high speed musical debates will have you holding your breath to see who comes out on top. Holding all this musical pyrotechnics together is bassist Martin Pizzarelli, a one man swing rhythm section.

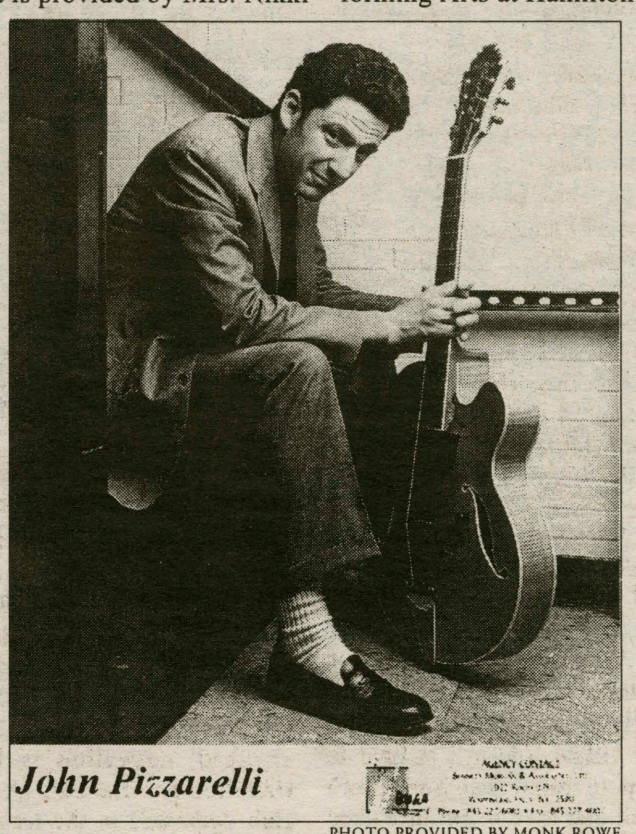
John, Ray and Martin have recorded and toured steadily for ten years and it shows not only in their tight virtuosity but in the variety of styles they can pull off in one evening. From Gershwin to the Beatles and everything in between, a night with the JP Trio will hit all the right buttons. If that isn't enough, John gives recent comedians a run for their money as he offers up spontaneous quips and stage patter that invite the audience in.

And where did this all talent come from? Wellin Hall will have the answer to that too. Hamilton is most fortunate to unite John and Martin with their famous father, seven string guitarist, Bucky Pizzarelli. Bucky graced the stages of the Fillius Events Barn and Wellin before and his presence is sure to lift this concert to a whole 'nother level.

Bucky received an Honorary Degree from Hamilton in 2003 in recognition of his outstanding musical accomplishments. After 60 years in the music business you might think it would become arduous for Bucky. If you are able to grab a seat near the stage, the joy you see on his face will put that thought to rest. The saying "it doesn't get any better than this" was created for this occasion.

Oh yes ... the Jersey thing. In one of those serendipitous show biz moments, John was brought together with a classy jingle about the Garden State. "I Like Jersey Best" has evolved into a show stopper and a vehicle for his uncanny musical impersonations of Bob Dylan, The Beach Boys and anyone else that strikes his fancy. "Jersey" is nice exclamation point for the musical Pizzarelli family of Saddle River, a clan John describes as the Sound of Music's "Von Trapp family on martinis."

Fallcoming Jazz in Wellin Hall
Friday, October 8th at 9 p.m.
Tickets: Hamilton students $5, the Hamilton Community $12, general public $18.
Tickets available at the door.
Generous support for this concert is provided by Mrs. Nikki Fillius; and by the Jazz Archive, the Dean of Faculty, Alumni Programs, Bon Appetit and Performing Arts at Hamilton.



John Pizzarelli

PHOTO PROVIDED BY MONK ROWE

Student movie premieres in KJ

*from **Liberal Arts**, page 16*

film follows the characters but there is no destination. There is conflict, chiefly the relationship problems between Freddie and Alison, and that conflict is resolved, but there is no climactic point, no point where everything comes together and this is what *Liberal Arts* needs. We need a reason to be watching these characters. Sure, they're entertaining, but that is not enough to make a really good movie. This isn't to say that there's no closure. There is certainly closure. The Board Game club is reinstated with the help of an ADK brother (a good message, I think. See, dorks and frats *can* be friends) and the other characters also come to the conclusions of their paths. Clearly, I'm not going to give away the ending. You'll have to see the movie for that (see the ad below), but because there is no destination for the story, the ending seems to come almost out of nowhere.

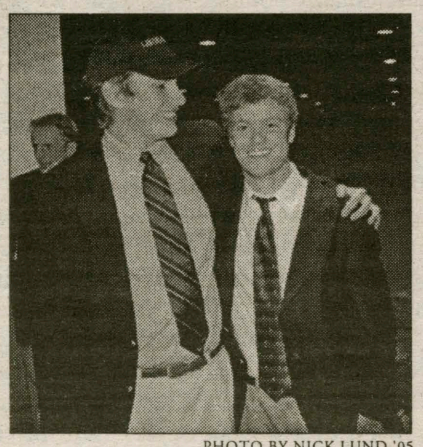


PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

Exec. producers and co-writers Whit Rothe '05 and Justin Thompson-Tucker '05 .

This film will be playing this weekend and probably again this semester and I recommend that you check it out. You will almost certainly relate with some character (this could be a bad thing for some of you) and you'll laugh. This movie shows a hell of a lot of promise and I, for one, look forward to their next offering. And guys, good luck getting into Sundance.

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LADDER 49 JOAQUIN PHOENIX
●12:00●2:15▲4:35-7:00-9:30 PG-13

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●1:05●3:15▲5:15-7:35-9:45 PG-13

SKY CAPTAIN & THE WORLD OF TOMORROW PG
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PHOTO TAKEN BY LEIGH VISCOMI

Nobel Prize winners look at cellular custodians

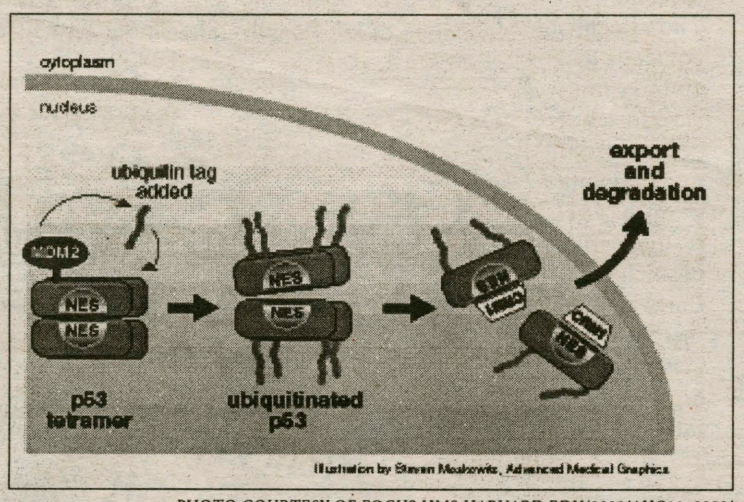
by Katrina Lexa '05
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Generally speaking, scientists, particularly biologists, look at the way things are created. Critics of cutting-edge science often say that we are focused on playing God, on discovering how to build new and better technologies. More often than not, the role of decay and destruction in science is left unexplored. Researchers tend to focus very little attention on the unglamorous sides of biological functions like cellular waste and disposal processes. However, on October 6, 2004, three chemists were awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for focusing on just that.

This year's winners are Dr. Aaron Ciechanover, 57, Dr. Avram Hershko, 67 and Dr. Irwin A. Rose, 78. The former two scientists are professors of biochemistry in Haifa at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, while Dr. Rose is a scientist at the University of California at Irvine. The monetary award of $1.3 million will be split among the three.

These two Israelis and one American studied the unglamorous side of a protein's life and how cells deal with proteins which become damaged or are no longer useful. They discovered that the janitorial duties of a cell are far less mundane than had initially been imagined. Cells take a sophisticated form of inventoring that into consideration as they perform specific functions. The efficient removal of specific proteins from a cell initiates specialized processes in cellular life, including division, certain functional pathways and even death.

Dr. Mark Hochstrasser, professor of molecular biophysics and biochemistry at Yale, commented to the New York Times that protein disposal is "crucial to almost any cellular process that anybody has studied." Unfortunately, its importance to the system as a whole went unrecognized until almost a decade ago.



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A cellular janitor-ubitiquin's destruction of proteins.

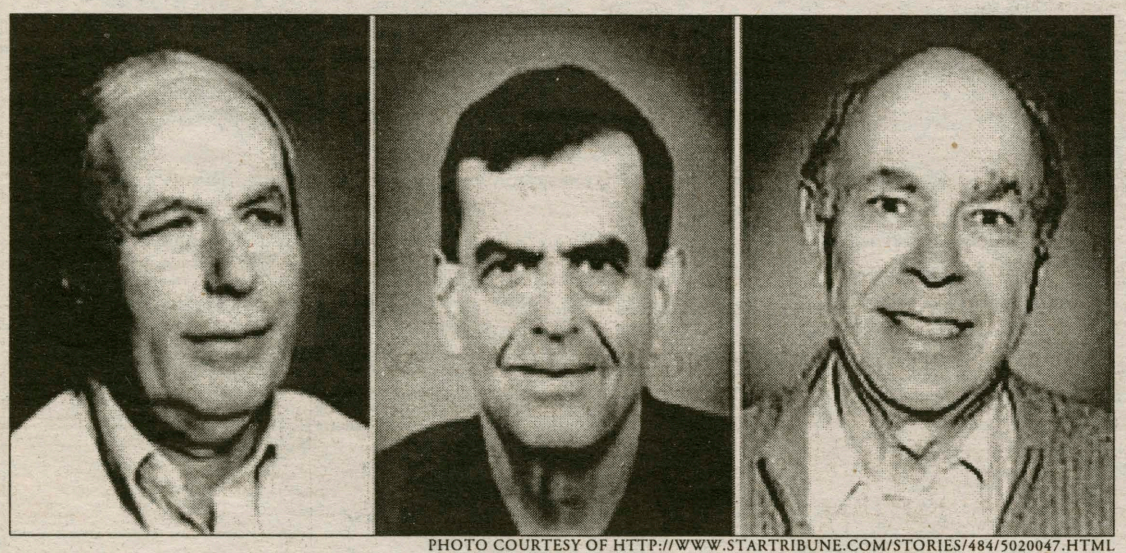
As long ago as the 1950s, scientists had seen experimentally that protein breakdown through the use of enzymes was not an energy-requiring process. Alternatively, whatever broke down a cell's own protein did need energy in order to function. Yet no one knew why energy was needed.

Dr. Rose and Dr. Hershko met in the 1970s at a joint conference and realized that their interests lay in the same area and that they had been attempting to solve the same problem. At the time, Dr. Ciechanover was a graduate student working under Dr. Hershko.

A few years later, researchers uncovered the significance of ubiquitin, a protein discovered in calves' sweetbread glands and present in every organism higher than bacteria, but previously without a known function. It spelled death for proteins. Ubiquitin solved the energy-requiring mystery: it needs energy to be attached to proteins waiting for destruction. Ubiquitin-protein complexes are then taken to proteasomes, barrel-like containers that can slice a protein into fragments, which are then recycled into new proteins.

Rose, Hershko and Ciechanover found that the destruction process they studied actually impacts the stage of life of every cell. When a cell divides, proteins called cyclins change at every step of the process, signaling to the cell what stage of life it is undergoing. To go from one stage to the next in a cell's life, these proteins need to be destroyed very quickly. Gaining insight into how cells systematically go about cleaning their environment of unnecessary or damaged proteins is incredibly important for an understanding of diseases which can occur when this process fails. Illnesses such as cystic fibrosis, Parkinson's disease and many types of cancer are only a few examples of the life-threatening problems that can arise from inefficient protein degradation.

This research has already led to last year's approval of a new cancer treatment that interferes with proteasomes and aids in the fight against multiple myeloma. Our Nobel Prize winners hope that their work will continue to aid in the development and improvement of advances in anti-cancer treatments. Says Hershko, "It does not mean that a miracle drug to beat cancer is on the way. But I do believe there will be advances in the treatment of cancer based on our work. This I truly believe in."



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Pictured from left to right: Dr. Avram Hershko, Dr. Aaron Ciechanover, and Dr. Irwin A. Rose. Frightening, don't you think?

Scientists report feathered ancestor of Jurassic Park's star, T. Rex

by Jonathan Rees '06
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

A new report issued yesterday in Nature Magazine suggests that ancestors of the deadly *Tyrannosaurus rex* were covered in feathers. Unearthed in Liaoning, China, the 130 million-year-old *Dilong paradoxus* marks the discovery of the oldest recorded member of the tyrannosauroid family as well as the first in the group with a featherlike coat. Scientists have highly anticipated this significant discovery since 1995 when first evidence of a feathered dinosaur surfaced from the same site.

Dilong's feathers are evolutionary precursors to modern feathers are therefore referred to as protofeathers. Unlike the modern feather with a shaft and barbs, protofeathers are single flexible filaments that covered *Dilong's* body like hair. Scientists say these feathers were employed for insulation rather than flight. *Tyrannosaurus rex* lost the feathers because it more likely had difficulty loosing heat rather than keeping it due to its larger size.

Evidence of protofeathers is difficult to discover due to the fact that feathers decay in the presence of oxygen. Fortunately, in Liaoning, fine-grained volcanic ash buried the specimens rapidly and preserved the feathery outlines.

Dilong, a carnivore, shares many physical traits with *T. rex*, though it was only a fraction of its size. It may have had a broad square skull and powerful jaws but unlike *T. rex*, *Dilong* was able to clutch its food in its hands and bring it to its mouth.

Mark Norell, a team member from the American Museum of Natural History, explains *Dilong's* peculiar name, "We added Paradoxus to its name because it's so counterintuitive to think of feathers and a *Tyrannosaurus* together." Team scientists hope that this new specimen will provide evidence to the greater scientific community that feathers evolved on dinosaurs before their appearance on birds.

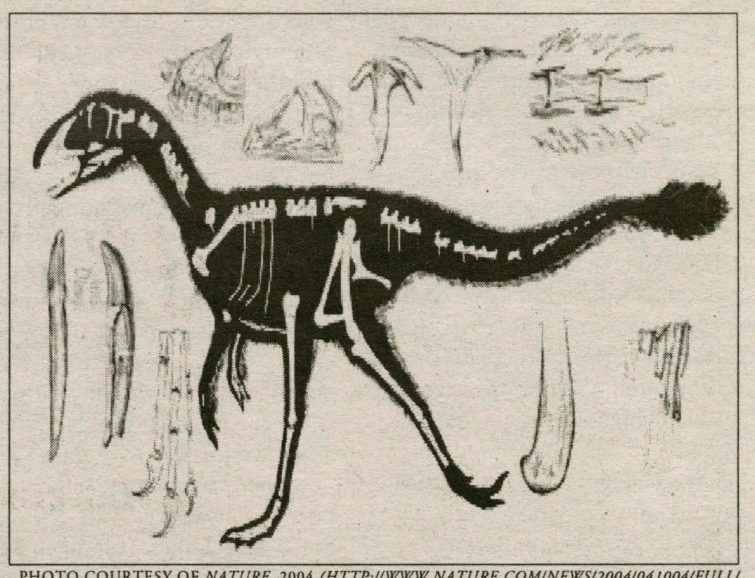

PHOTO COURTESY OF *NATURE*, 2004 *(HTTP://WWW.NATURE.COM/NEWS/2004/041004/FULL/041004-11.HTML)*

A 1.5-meter long skeleton with traces of protofeathers, discovered in 2001, which may be a *Dilong paradoxus*.

Write for the Science Section. Rees wants you!

Double Bubble Toil...

by Katrina Lexa '05
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Most people associate soft drink consumption with some small amount of health risk. Sugary and carbonated beverages are known for contributing to tooth decay and large dental bills. They have also been linked to obesity, particularly in children, and the development of dietary disorders like diabetes later in life. However, it is doubtful that many people associate their consumption of soda and other carbonated beverages with a higher risk of cancer.

Researchers at Tata Memorial Hospital in India believe that they should. They have linked the incidence of esophageal cancer to the heightened consumption of soft drinks since the 1950s. Their study suggests that the rise in per capita consumption of carbonated beverages over the last 50 years hasn't just influenced obesity levels, but has also led to a documented rise in rates of esophageal cancer in the United States.

As of 1946, America's consumption of fizzy sugared beverages has skyrocketed an astounding 450 percent, increasing from 10.8 gallons per person each year to 49.2 gallons per person in 2000. Tata Memorial Hospital's researchers believe that it is not coincidence that the incidence of esophageal cancer has risen 570 percent in the past 25 years among the study's population of white American men - nearly all of them were killed by the disease. The Indian scientists cite gastric acid reflux as a biological foundation to support their linkage of between sodas and cancer. Soft drinks cause stomach distention due to their fizzy qualities, thereby causing the gastric reflux mechanism that has already been connected to the incidence of esophageal cancer.

The United States is not the only country whose carbonated beverage consumption has mushroomed. Researchers also found that any country with an annual soft drink consumption of at least 20 gallons per capita has seen a rise in esophageal cancer rates. According to a prepared statement by the study's director, Dr. Mohandas Mallath, "The surprisingly strong correlation demonstrates the impact of diet patterns on health trends."

So perhaps the next time you crack open something cold and bubbly, you might want to think about your own esophagus, and keeping it healthy and happy for the rest of your long life. You would miss your esophagus.

Ig Nobel Prizes celebrate ridiculous science achievements

by Jonathan Rees '06
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Every year, in light of the real Nobel Prize ceremonies, the science humor magazine, Annals of Improbable Research (AIR), sponsors the 'IG Nobel Prize' (like ignoble, get it?) ceremony. According to its home website, the Ig Nobel prize awards with the intention, "... to celebrate the unusual, honor the imaginative — and spur people's interest in science, medicine, and technology." The Ig was initiated in 1991 and awards prizes for research "achievements that cannot or should not be reproduced." The prizes are awarded at Harvard's Sanders Theater in front of an audience of 1200. This year's ceremony took place on September 30th and following the usual custom, real Nobel Laureates were present to hand-out the awards.

Ten awards were presented and many of them were quite hilarious. Ben Wilson, Lawrence Dill, Robert Batty, Magnus Whalberg and Hakan Westerberg were awarded the biology Ig Nobel prize for their discovery of fish farts. At one point or another in our lives we've definitely asked ourselves, how do herring communicate? And these researchers have determined that the answer is that they communicate by farting. So far, herring are the only fish known to exhibit this behavior and the reasons for it are as yet unknown although there are several hypotheses which include: "contact calls at night, anipredator tactics, or incidental results of buoyancy compensation." Actually, the gas emanating from the anal region of the fish is not digestive gas but rather comes from the swim bladder. As far as the researchers know it has no smell. You can even listen to a herring fart by visiting http://www.zoology.ubc.ca/%7Ebwilson/herring.html.

There were some other interesting awards as well. Steven Stack and James Gundlach received the Ig Nobel prize in medicine for their published report, "The Effect of Country Music on Suicide." Their report states: "Country music is hypothesized to nurture a suicidal mood through its concerns with problems common in the suicidal population, such as marital discord, alcohol abuse, and alienation from work. The results of a multiple regression analysis of 49 metropolitan areas show that the greater the airtime devoted to country music, the greater the white suicide rate. The effect is independent of divorce, southernness, poverty, and gun availability." The conclusion of their report contends that country music "foster[s] a suicidal mood among people already at risk of suicide and that it is thereby associated with a high suicide rate."

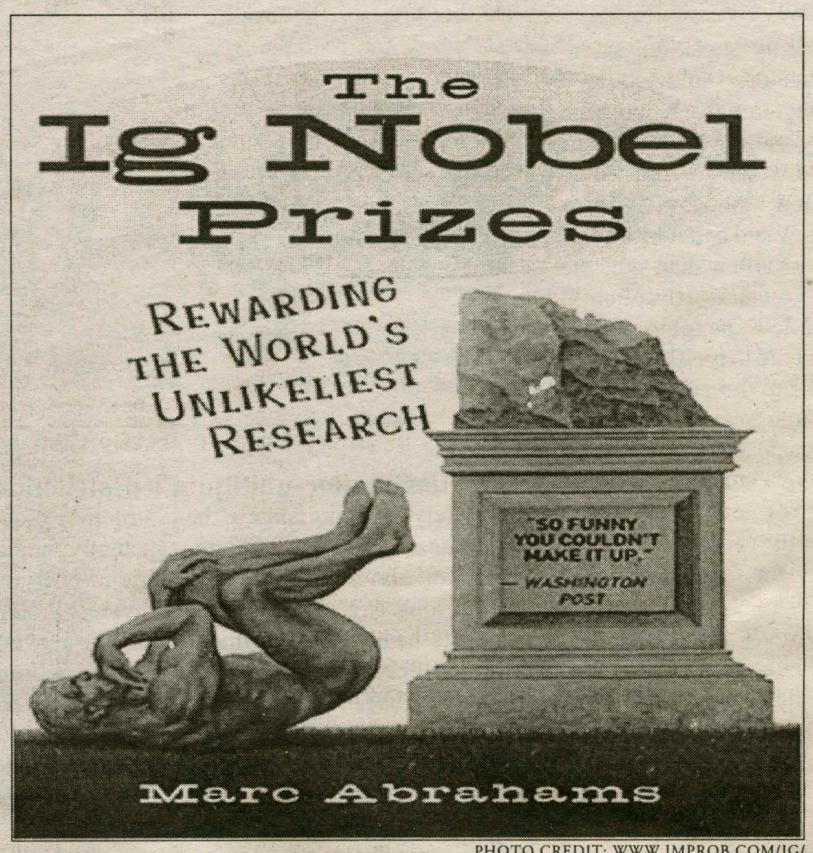

PHOTO CREDIT: WWW.IMPROB.COM/IG/
The thinking man learns to laugh...

High school student Jillian Clarke received the award in Public Health for her research on "the five second rule." Most people can agree that the acceptable time between dropping something on the floor and eating it is 5 seconds. According to Clarke, this popular tenet dates back to Genghis Kahn, who had lower standards and allowed 12 hours for a fallen morsel. She found both good news and bad news from her research. The good news is that floors free of microbes will not contaminate food. The bad news is that floors that are contaminated will taint food in less than five seconds.

There are other ridiculous awards, but by far the most outlandish is the engineering Ig for the development and patent of 'the combover' in male baldness awarded to Donald J. Smith and his father, the late Frank J. Smith. For more information about this year's Ig Nobel awards and awards of the past, visit: http://www.improb.com/ig/.

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(all served with chips and garlic-dill pickle spear)

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Men's soccer loses on penalty kick to Hobart, 1-0

Mid-game fight and Nizzi's ejection adds intensity to contest and eventual rematch

by Mike Hayes '06
SPORTS WRITER

This time of year, as the season is slowly shaping up, every conference game becomes enormous. That may be why last Saturday's loss to Hobart College stung so much for the Hamilton men's soccer squad. It didn't help that the Cont's defeat came at the hands of a controversial 72nd minute penalty kick. "It was one of those games that could be classified as a defensive struggle," commented Coach Nizzi. "As a conference game, you hate to give those away, but they were treating it as a must win and those are never easy to win on the road...we have nothing to hang our heads about."

The first half generated very little offensive firepower from either the Statesmen or the Continentals. "Neither team wanted to come out of their shell early on, which can be expected in such a big game," said Coach Nizzi. "Later on, we were able to put little more pressure on them, but unfortunately we weren't able to generate much offense."

Junior goaltender Anthony Tripicchio, turned in another solid effort for the Continentals making a beautiful save in the 59th minute of play where he tipped the ball just enough to deflect it off the crossbar and keep the game scoreless. Tripicchio turned away two Hobart shots on the afternoon. Unfortunately, Hamilton's problems were offensive problems, or lack thereof. "Offensively we became pretty frustrated throughout the game, but we have to move forward and treat this as a learning experience," commented senior tri-captain Jacob Shapiro. "The bottom line, however, is that if we don't score goals we can't expect to come out on top."

The question for the Cont's now is where to go from here. The squad currently stands with a 6-2 overall record and a 2-1 record within conference play. Four of the remaining six games are conference contests, starting with two enormous road games this weekend at Vassar and at Rensselaer. "This time of year everybody is a little nicked up, but its important to keep our focus especially when we have to play on the road," said Coach Nizzi. "We're not exactly in a terrible position where we have to hit the panic button, it just becomes gut-check time." The Continentals will now shift their attention fully and completely to the conference tournament at the end of the year and will look to best position themselves for the tournament. The loss to Hobart may serve as the eventual turning point in the 2004 season if the Continentals bounce back the way they are capable of bouncing back. "The conference tournament now becomes our focal point," commented Shapiro. "We have nothing else to worry about."

The last leg of the season starts this Friday at 4:00 PM as the Continentals battle Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, NY and then travel to Troy, NY to battle Rensselaer at 2:00 PM Saturday.

Sophomore Ian Hildebrand (7) will look to add to his offensive output this weekend in two important Liberty League matches versus Vassar and RPI.

Fallcoming Athletic Events...

Friday

Women's soccer vs. Vassar (4:00)
Field hockey vs. RPI (4:00)

Saturday

Men and women's Cross-Country (11:00)
Football vs Trinity (1:00)
Women's soccer vs. RPI (2:00)
Field hockey vs. Vassar (2:00)

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Pizza

	Small	Large
Cheese	6.00	8.95
1 Item	6.75	9.95
2 Items	7.50	10.95
3 Items	7.75	11.95
4 Items	8.50	12.95

Small = 8 pieces Large = 16 pieces

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10 Wings	4.75		
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50 Wings	13.95	150 Wings	35.00
60 Wings	15.95	200 Wings	46.00
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Red Sox fever: Will it finally happen this year?

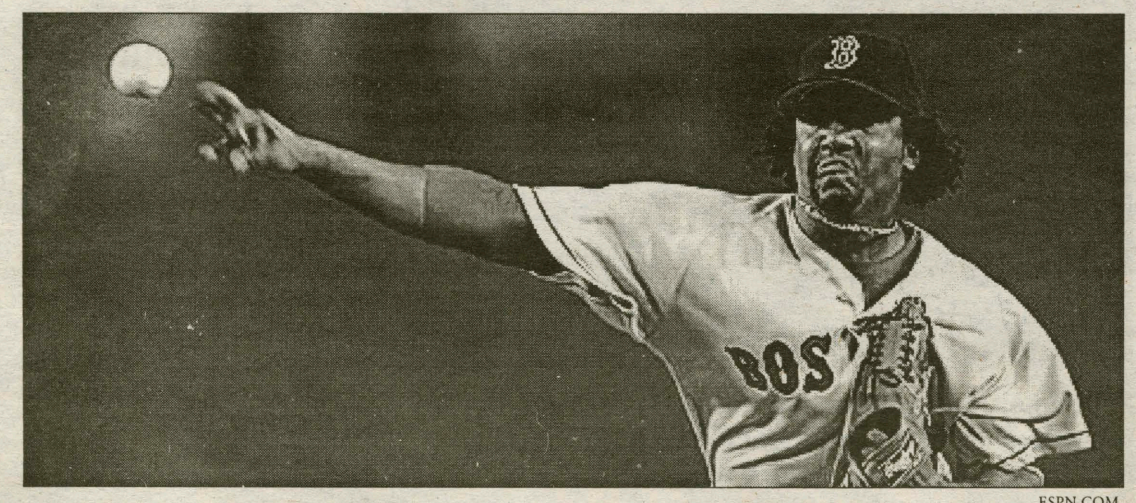
by Michael Proia '05
SENIOR EDITOR

The baseball playoffs are upon us, and with the amount of Sox and Yankee fans walking this campus, I thought I'd try to clear up something about Red Sox fans: we don't have a choice in the matter, so leave us alone! This is not me being a sore loser, simply saying to all the none-Sox fans out there, if you're not from Boston, if you haven't lived it, you cannot possibly understand it. It's a different way of life, and here's why:

Two weeks ago, after two Yankee blowouts of the Sox followed by the Orioles' late inning victory over Boston, I was depressed, thinking even the wild card may have slipped out of our grasp. Then the Sox won two straight games in walk-off fashion, and I thought, "ok, ship righted enough to make it to October, we have a chance to catch the Yanks this weekend, and it could be ok." Then the Friday night Pedro-Yankees game in Fenway happened, and I said, "why do this to myself?" We're in October; we're playing the Yanks there, so take a week off. I told all my friends, I don't care what happens this week, I'm not watching. That lasted exactly 3 seconds as Saturday night they had the great 8th inning, and Sunday the great first inning and just like that they were breathing down the neck of the Yankees again.

Last week. I told myself I wouldn't watch, get my work done, and what happened? I realized they could clinch a playoff spot Monday night, and the next night it went to extras with a chance to get back within 2.5 of the Yanks. My friends said, "I thought you weren't watching" to which I responded, "I'm not, I'm viewing." No one understands the difference, but for Sox fans it's a big one. Once you start watching a Sox game, there is no walking away; you're planted in front of the screen for the night. Viewing is different; when I view I know the score inning by inning, but lie to myself and tell myself I don't want to know how they scored or how Terry Francona is messing up tonight. I love this team so much that I hate it. Like a girlfriend who you avoid having to talk to on the phone every night. Sometimes you just don't want to have to put in the time and effort, then the phone rings, I want to ignore it, but it keeps ringing, and I tell myself, pick it up, it will be over quickly. 3 hours later you find yourself wondering, where did my evening go? It's 2 AM already? Yikes! But tomorrow night, I pick up the phone again, because it rings for me, it's someone who wants to talk to me, to make me feel good.

As a Sox fan, I expect to lose in October to the Yanks, because that's the only way this Sox season could end, yet I waited the playoffs for a week, dreaming of the day I get to see the Sox play a World Series game in Fenway. I won't sleep at night, but it doesn't matter once the playoffs start, because we will be 7 wins away from the Series. The Brooklyn Dodgers used to say "wait till next year," but Sox fans boast "this year's the year." That's what makes us different, that's what makes us tragic and overwhelmingly enviable in some places. Our hope has been beaten back so many times, so many ways, and we still stand and say, "Hey, I'm back." Maybe we are too stupid to learn the lesson; maybe like Rocky Marciano we are just too tough and stubborn to know when we're beaten. I don't know why or how we keep coming back, but as soon as we have been eliminated we count the days till pitchers and catchers report. The Pats have our heads but the Sox will always hold our hearts.

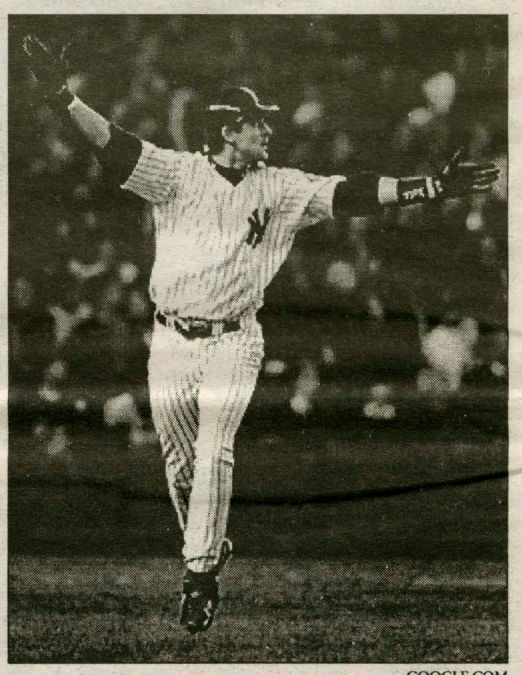


ESPN.COM

Has Pedro shaken off a tough end to the season to shine in October? His dominant start on Wednesday night silenced a lot of his critics.

It's like an addiction, a cancer. It spreads around communities till it consumes everyone, chews them up, spits them out, and restarts the cycle. The Red Sox are bigger than religion in New England, they are oxygen. They are lifeblood of a city and state and region, and we give them our loyalty in exchange for a broken heart. Sounds knid of like an abusive relationship doesn't it? Man hits woman, woman goes to police to press charges, man apologizes claiming he's changed and loves her, woman drops charges and comes home for more punishment. Pretty sick that we do this to ourselves, but sicker still that we are proud of it. Sox fans band together because of the shared disappointment. We go to movies called "Still We Believe" knowing the ending will break our hearts. We sell t-shirts with "reverse the curse" written across the chest. Boston is the "city on a hill" and maybe, just maybe, it's time to come off of the hill and retire while we are still living and breathing. Then again, as long as Marciano was still breathing, he was getting up from the mat to take a few more punches because he was a Bostonian, as are we.

We will never be able to give it up, which is why if I ever have children I'm keeping them as far from the Sox as possible. I won't hang the albatross around their necks; I won't let them suffer for my sins as a Sox fan. Then again, perhaps that's not a choice I can make. Just as my father drew me into the abyss, I will probably draw my children in with me. Sox fans can travel 3,000 miles away to San Diego or Los Angeles and still follow the Sox as if they were back in Beantown. Sox fans go overseas and buy a satellite dish to see every game. It is in our blood, and so it is passed down to our children and our children's children. There are too many stories to count of fathers on their deathbeds declaring to their sons, "the sox will win a championship in your lifetime," and so far none have been right. But we persist and pursue a championship, and Fenway will never go quiet until the Sox have fulfilled the promise of past owners living and dead: to deliver a World Series to the people of Boston.



GOOGLE.COM

Aaron Boone added his name to the folklore last year with his walkoff homerun to beat the Sox.

So if you're a Yankees fan, or if you "hate the sox because everyone likes them just because it's cool to be a Red Sox fan," I'm asking you to cut us a little slack. We don't have cases full of championship rings, we simply have hope. To ask Sox fans to give up on the team would be like telling a teacher to stop educating or a doctor to stop healing. Sox fans have an understanding of tragedy that not even Shakespeare could put into words, but don't take pity on us, just leave us be, that's all we ask. And Sox fans, if we do by some miracle win a championship in any of our lifetimes, treasure it for yourself. Don't throw it back in the face of every Yankee fan you know, don't belittle it by making it about 1 team instead of 30 teams that begin the season in search of one goal. Appreciate it, celebrate it, and honor it by simply saying, "Finally, we have one, finally we can move on." All I have left to say is but a simple question: How many days until pitchers and catchers report?

GOOGLE.COM

Curt Schilling came to Boston with one goal: deliver a championship to the Red Sox.

Football looks ahead to clash with Trinity

*from **Football**, page 24*

pete and have all eleven guys do their jobs. We can't have nine guys one play, and ten guys on the other do their job. Every single person on offense and defense needs to do their job on every single play."

As far as game plans are concerned, look for the same philosophy.

"This is probably our best week of practice. We have continually been practicing at game speed. When we practice at game speed, we will be much more successful once Saturday rolls around," added Alvanos.

Despite the 0-2 start, Alvanos and the Conts are extremely excited to play at home. After being away for the first two league games, coming back to the Hill will no doubt invigorate the team and coaching staff. And with a strong student body support and various alumni looking on, expect the Conts to elevate their level of play. The energy will be high, and the effort will be there. Look for the troops to ride on the adrenaline train and prove that they are a force in the NESCAC this year.

Beat the Experts

DeCastro and Oz are battling for the top spot with Lund and Proia staying close behind. DeCastro and Proia last week managed to each go 1-4 with NFL picks, giving Osborne the chance to catch up. Kevin Galvin had a solid week as the guest, keeping the guest spot even through four weeks. Osborne was the lone person to pick the Yankees over the Sox, and he calls himself a Sox fan...ha!

	Andrew DeCastro *Spectator* *Sports Editor*	Mike Osborne *Spectator* *Sports Editor*	Michael Proia *Spectator* *Senior Editor*	Nick Lund *Spectator* *Photo Editor*	Sean Carrigan *Senior* *Guest #5*
Season Record:	**23-16**	**23-16**	**21-18**	**21-18**	**23-16**
NFL					
Cleveland @ Pittsburgh 10/10	Steelers	Steelers	Steelers	Steelers	Browns
Jacksonville @ San Diego 10/10	Jaguars	Jaguars	Chargers	Jaguars	Jaguars
Seattle @ St. Louis 10/10	Seahawks	Seahawks	Seahawks	Seahawks	Seahawks
NY Giants @ Dallas 10/10	Dallas	Dallas	Giants	Giants	Dallas
Tennessee @ Green Bay 10/11	Green Bay	Green Bay	Titans	Green Bay	Green Bay
College Football					
#5 Texas vs, #2 Oklahoma 10/9	Texas	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma
#13 Minnesota vs. #14 Michigan 10/9	Minnesota	Michigan	Michigan	Minnesota	Michigan
#17 Tennessee @ #3 Georgia 10/9	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia
MLB					
Anaheim @ Boston (Gm. 3) 10/8	Sox	Sox	Sox	Sox	Sox
Atlanta @ Houston (Gm. 3) 10/9	Braves	Braves	Braves	Houston	Braves

Beat the "Experts" is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college athletics. Each week, we will pick several games in which to choose winners, and we will have a special guest pick winners as well. If any game ends in a tie, it is not counted.

Field hockey remains winless on the season

by Matt Bradley '07
SPORTS WRITER

The Hamilton College women's field hockey team has dropped its last three games, continuing this season's unfortunate losing streak. The Continentals have a very talented squad, but have trouble translating their hard work into game situations. The team's past three opponents, Rochester, William Smith and St. Lawrence, are Liberty League rivals. Intra-league games are important because they can determine who earns a bid in post-season play. The Continentals' unfortunate slump may hurt their playoff hopes later on this season.

The girls faced off at the University of Rochester on September 24. The Yellow Jackets played tough defensively, holding the Continentals to only six shots the entire game. JoJo "The Cannon" McCann '05 fired three of the team's offensive attempts while the freshmen duo of Marley Burns and Natalie Schwerin attempted the remaining three.

Defensively, Polly "Get out of my house" Noble '05 put on a solid performance in the goal. Noble dealt well with Rochester's seventeen-shot offensive, recording only one less save than her seasoned Rochester counterpart. The Continentals have the talent to be successful, but have yet to prove it to the rest of the league. If the squad can put up a few more points, it can put itself in a better position to win games. "We have been working really hard in practice and we just need to translate that into our games," comments Sarah Weiner '08. "We have the potential to really turn our season around; we just need to work on scoring."

Hamilton also had problems finding an offensive spark in its games against William Smith and St. Lawrence. The girls recorded a 0-3 loss against William Smith, one of the league's premier squads, and managed to score only one in the 1-6 loss against St. Lawrence.

William Smith proved to be a difficult opponent for Hamilton's struggling offense. While the Continentals' defense played very well against William Smith's explosive offense, it was not enough to give them a much-needed momentum change. Hamilton did not record any shots on goal against the Herons, while William Smith fired thirty during the 60-minute match, twelve in the first half and eighteen in the second.

Noble recorded sixteen saves while only allowing three goals, a solid statistic considering William Smith's offensive potential.

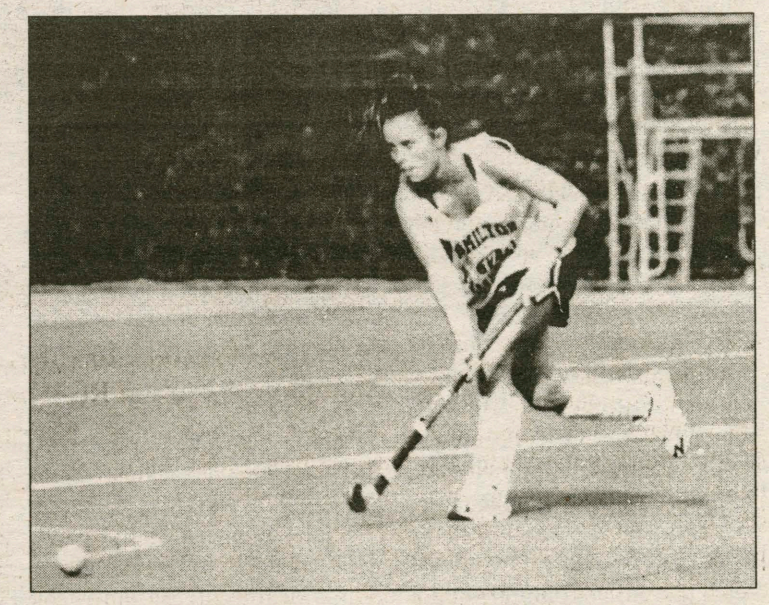
With the Continentals' struggling offense, however, they have a tough time positioning themselves for a win. It is important to note that the squad is very young. Many of the underclassmen have had to step up and contribute for the team to be successful. With help from the team's more experienced players, the underclassmen are transitioning smoothly into the program. It is only a matter of time before the mix of younger and older players combine to reach the squad's full potential.

"The upperclassmen have been particularly motivational," says Weiner. "Their determination and hard work motivate the team to play for more than just a win. They've also made the season enjoyable because they've worked really hard to make us a team both on and off the field."

Hamilton fell behind quickly in its most recent game against St. Lawrence University. St. Lawrence finished the half with a 2-0 advantage over Hamilton. The Saints came out in the second half and scored two more, earning a comfortable four-goal lead. By the time Hamilton's Kristen Archibald '06 scored her third career goal with 8:46 remaining, it was too late for the worn-down squad to bounce back.

The squad plays its second home game of the season today on the turf against RPI on the turf. The 4:00 pm game will be the Continentals' first chance to bounce back after dropping three important Liberty League match-ups. "I strongly believe we can turn around this season, starting [today]," commented senior captain Beth "Spazway" Conway '05.

"This team has shown more dedication to the sport and to each other than I have ever seen. We have all the skill, desire and teamwork needed to play amazing field hockey. Now all we have to do is make the decision not to give up once we step on the field."



Senior Beth Conway, above, will look to lead the field hockey team to its first win of the season this weekend versus RPI.

A Hamilton College Student Publication, Clinton NY Volume XXXXV Number 5

Spectator Sports

October 7, 2004

Women's soccer beats William Smith, 1-0

Slane's goal in overtime propels Conts to first national ranking in school history

by Andrew Dassori '07
SPORTS WRITER

Hamilton's women's soccer team faced quite possibly its toughest opponent of the season this past weekend on Love Field. In the hard-fought double-overtime battle, they came out with a victory. The Continentals beat William Smith 1-0, marking both the end of their 21-year losing streak in the series and the continuation of their unbeaten streak this season.

Of the win, Coach Gilligan remarked, "The team was ecstatic, there was a bench-clearing pile on top of each other. For us, beating William Smith and Union a week apart was huge." And with these two consecutive wins over nationally ranked programs, the Hamilton College women's soccer team now ranks 14th nationally. This is the first time in the program's twenty-plus year history that they have been nationally ranked.

In the game, the Continentals "battled hard throughout," according to coach Gilligan. However, carrying a 0-0 tie into the second overtime period, the game did not exemplify Hamilton's high-powered, high-scoring offense that has been on display in recent games. "We won the physical game, but as far as playing our game we were a little bit off," said Coach Gilligan. She added, "We didn't have consistency with the type of play that we had before, and we didn't really control the game the way we should have. They had more possession time than we did, so our keeper had to come up with some pretty big saves."

Fortunately, freshman goalkeeper Caitlin McGilley had what it took to keep Hamilton in the game as she recorded her first career shutout. In one of the biggest games of her young career, McGilley shut down the opposition. Defensively, Ali Grant also stood out in the win. "Ali did a very good job marking their key players, as she has for the past couple of games," commented Coach Gilligan. Marking the top threats on the William Smith squad, Graham played an important role in leading the Continentals to victory. From the midfield, junior Liz Roberts has continued her strong play. "Liz has really been a great player. She is consistently getting it done for us," Coach Gilligan explained.

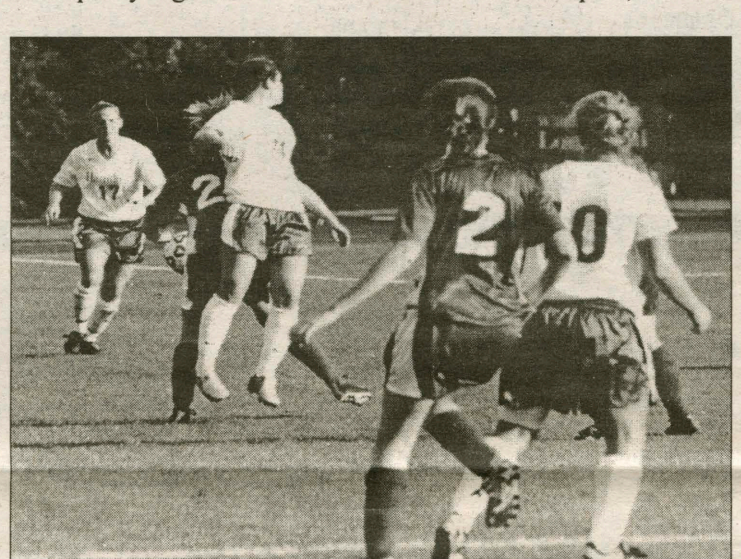


PHOTO BY BOBBY COLE '06

Hamilton hopes to extend its winning streak and move up in the rankings this Friday against Vassar.

On offense, the Continentals scored only one goal, but it was nonetheless triumphant. After having a goal called back due to an offsides penalty with only a few minutes remaining, it took two overtimes for the team to put the ball in the net again. Freshman Emma Slane hammered home the game-winner in the second overtime period to give Hamilton the win, and give her the first goal of her collegiate career.

"Emma was in the right spot at the right time and did a really good job of being composed enough to place the ball where she did. She did an excellent job given the situation and the task that was in front of her," said Coach Gilligan. According to Coach Gilligan, "Mara [Dropkin-Frank] also played well offensively. She definitely made things happen every time she went in." Though this game was evidently a defensive battle, in the end, the team managed to pull it off offensively when the game was on the line.

And so, the Continentals enter this week with their first national ranking and some tough opponents ahead. According to Coach Gilligan, "Our ranking gives us confidence in the fact that other programs have recognized us as doing well this year. In the past we have always been the team that has done the chasing, now we are the team that is chased. It gives our opponents more incentive to beat us, and it gives us the responsibility to carry that and do well with it." With this baggage, the team must face off against Vassar and RPI at home this coming weekend, and win all of its final four games in order to host the conference tournament. Thus, despite confidence stemming from their national ranking, they cannot overlook their opponents.

"Any given day the ball can bounce the wrong way, especially in soccer, so we need to be focused," explained Coach Gilligan. Riding on their unbeaten streak, the team is focused on winning the rest of the way, and making history for the Hamilton women's soccer program.

Football lets up against Wesleyan and loses, 41-35

Despite leading throughout, Conts' turnovers and inconsistencies lead to Cardinals' fourth quarter comeback

by Andrew DeCastro '05
SPORTS EDITOR

After the embarrassing loss at Amherst in the season opener a couple of weeks ago, Hamilton received the wake-up it needed for the following week's game against Wesleyan. Early on it seemed to work; Hamilton dominated the Cardinals in the first half. Despite losing two fumbles inside Wesleyan's five-yard line, Hamilton went into the lockerroom up 21-7 at halftime. Even though Hamilton conceivably could have been up four touchdowns, they still amassed 391 yards of total offense. Captain Brandon Holtslag '06 ended up finishing the game with 179 yards rushing and 234 yards passing. Wesleyan, meanwhile, was only able to muster 103 yards of total offense against the stingy Continental defense. All signs from the first half gave Hamilton fans reason to be optimistic about the first victory against Wesleyan in Head Coach Pete Alvanos' career here at Hamilton.

The second half, however, proved to be an entirely different story. Wesleyan, not giving up, came out and dominated the second half offensively, picking apart Hamilton's defensive backfield. Cardinal quaterback Zach Canter threw for over 400 yards, getting most of it in the second half. His poor completion percentage (42%) indicated that the Hamilton D gave up big plays. Ray DeMartino '07 arguably had the most complete game on defense, intercepting one pass, making ten tackles, forcing a fumble and getting a sack. Chris Slama '05 chipped in with 2.5 sacks.

Interestingly enough Hamilton's defensive line and aggressive linebackers applied consistent pressure to Canter, sacking him six times.

In addition to Hamilton's struggles on defense, the offense was only able to muster 115 yards of total offense in the second half. And despite these setbacks, Hamilton still led the game deep into the fourth quarter. Hamilton subsequently faked a punt, only getting two yards when they needed five. The Cardinals then drove down the field through the air, tied the game, and ended up winning the game on their next offensive possession.

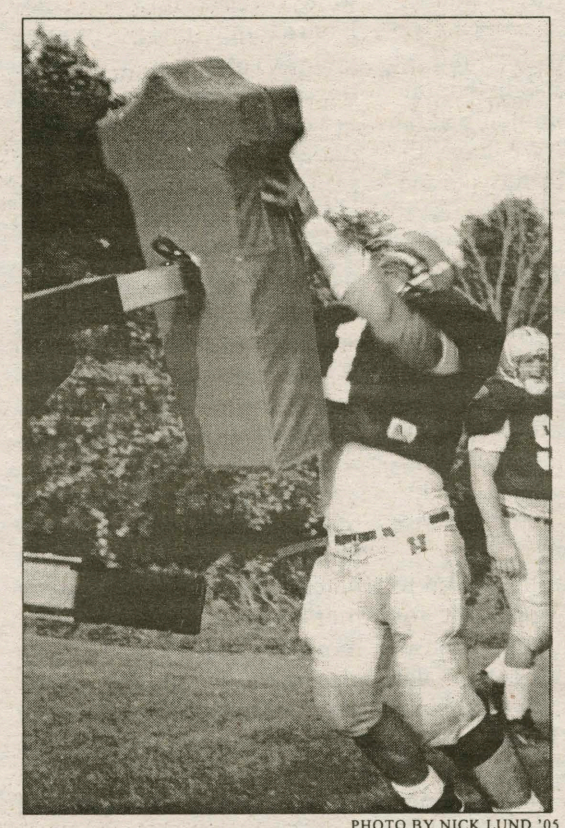


PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

Hamilton continues to work hard in practice in preparation for Trinity.

One of head coach Pete Alvanos's jobs this week was to bury the loss at Wesleyan and focus on this Saturday's opponent, Trinity. The effort against Wesleyan was not and never is a question. It was there. What lacked was consistency on both sides of the ball. But dwelling on that game won't change the outcome, and certainly won't help against Trinity.

Trinity, currently riding a 17-game winning streak, is this year's favorite to take the NESCAC crown. Trinity, unlike Wesleyan, stresses the run. By controlling the clock and pounding it on the ground, Trinity will hope to utilize their play action and convert them into big plays. Look for the Hamilton defense to load up the box, and to continue to be aggressive on defense. Coach Alvanos put the offensive and defensive battles into perspective:

"We need to go out and com-

*see **Football**, page 22*